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BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

AND

DIVISIONAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR

1960



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FOR THE YEAR

1960

Town Hall,  
BEBINGTON, WIRRAL,  
CHESHIRE.  
(Tel. ROCK FERRY 1440)

## BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON

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**HEALTH COMMITTEE***Chairman:* Alderman R. WILLIAMS*Vice-Chairman:* Councillor C. W. D. THOMPSON

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*The Mayor:* Councillor J. K. TRENCH, J.P.*The Deputy Mayor:* Councillor B. R. JONES*Aldermen—*

H. P. LONG

H. SMITH

*Councillors—*

R. EVANS

R. HORSLEY

Mrs. B. GILL, J.P.

Mrs. M. LEECE

G. E. GLOVER

W. WEDGEWOOD

Mrs. H. G. HEBRON

Mrs. E. B. WILLIAMS

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**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF***Medical Officer of Health*

F. S. MELVILLE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Chief Public Health Inspector*

T. TOWNSON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

*Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector*

D. R. McCULLOCH, M.A.P.H.I. (To 30.4.60)

J. BALL, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (From 9.6.60)

*Additional Public Health Inspectors*

E. CLOSS-PARRY

L. C. MOORE

A. R. MOORE

R. B. VAUGHAN

*Pupil Public Health Inspectors*

J. C. KNEALE (To 10.6.60)

J. L. ELLIS

*Chief Clerk*

W. R. TURNER

*Clerical Staff*

Mrs. E. BIENIEK

Miss M. HOSKER

Mrs. A. JACKSON (To 31.7.60)

Mrs. P. JONES

Miss B. LEA (From 18.7.60)

## THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON

*Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report for the year 1960.*

*It has been another quiet year in the borough for infectious disease. Measles, the only infectious disease at the moment to return with unabated persistence at regular intervals was just at the commencement of its anticipated epidemic rise at the end of the year. The only other matter of concern still is the regular occurrence of at least one bad food poisoning incident each year. This year is no exception as will be seen described in the report. There were forty-five people who had food poisoning at a celebration of a golden wedding. Scrupulous food preparation and handling would have prevented this and there is still need for much educational effort in this field.*

*Atmospheric Pollution has occupied a considerable proportion of the department's time.*

*The Borough's first smoke control area at Abbots Grange came into operation in the summer of this year and has been an unqualified success. There have been very few complaints from the tenants of any difficulties and the success of this project is self-evident to all who live or work near this estate. The staff of the department had completed the survey of the second area during the year and it is hoped that as they get experience this work can be speeded up continuously.*

*For a borough of this size there is a remarkable absence of industrial smoke due in large measure to the fact that industries in it are either new, or if old established, progressive and shrewd, and they appreciate that smoke represents waste of money. Although there is no smoke to speak of unfortunately there are types of industry inevitably associated with smells. I am glad to report that thanks probably largely to the "weather clerk" but also to the no mean efforts of the industries concerned the year was noteworthy as being one when there were not many days when these smells were a great nuisance.*

*Last but of course by no means least there was the great atmospheric pollution problem of the "acid smuts" in the spring and early summer. It quickly became evident that this trouble stemmed from the Central Electricity Authority's Power Station at Bromborough. This modern oil burning station is a key power producer for this area and in the national and local interest it was imperative that any remedial action must be taken whilst the station was in full operation. To read the self-styled experts writing to the press this was a simple easily-remedied problem, but in fact it taxed the staff of the station as it had been doing for some time the experts of all countries. The outcome of some months of extremely hard work, worry and deep thought by the manager and his staff had before the end of the year resulted in their devising methods which obviated this extremely serious public health nuisance. Frequent sampling and testing*

has continued since the first complaint and I can report that since the remedial measures were put into operation there has been no unsatisfactory results.

This episode only highlights the difficulties still to be overcome before the atmosphere of an industrial country becomes really clean. The smoke which is the obvious nuisance is now fairly rapidly being done away with but the harmful gaseous products particularly the oxides of sulphur and the organic by-products of oil fuels constitute a problem which still has to be solved.

A potential source of public health nuisance, in fact one of the original nuisances, the elimination of which was the prime purpose of setting up public health authorities in the last century, is that of domestic refuse. This can be a cause of nuisance in three ways. Firstly at the house where the householder can be causing a nuisance by having an ineffective uncovered ash bin where flies can breed and other animals can root amongst the rubbish, secondly at the kerbside dust is blown about when bins are left uncovered and also while they are being emptied into the refuse vehicle, and finally where the refuse is inefficiently disposed of.

This department is continuously on the alert to see and obviate any nuisance in the first category. Modern machinery and methods have gone some way to obviating the second and good disposal methods can obviate the third.

The commonest method of disposing of refuse in this country at the present time is by controlled tipping and so long as suitable sites which will be improved by being filled in are available, this is the most economic method. However, as suitable sites become scarcer and haulage distances greater the economics change. Alternative methods of disposal are incineration and composting. Incineration by modern methods is satisfactory from a public health standpoint when conducted properly but is undeniably the most expensive. Composting municipal refuse, the third alternative, is rapidly gaining favour. The argument for composting is that it is a productive not destructive method of disposal. The resultant humus, whatever its fertiliser value, which can vary, is an essential additive to land, especially land which is highly cultivated and ipso facto intensively treated with artificial fertiliser as no amount of fertiliser will ultimately compensate for humus. The arguments against, apart from the economic aspect which is at present imponderable and very debatable, are that tipping will still be required for the non-compostable elements and that some sewage sludges have toxic metals which would poison the land. Insofar as tipping incompostables is concerned, this is true but it is equally true of incineration and they will become smaller and smaller in amount as modern domestic heating methods change. Many authorities have already commented on the change in the quality and bulk of domestic refuse in the last two or three years. So far as sewage sludge is concerned it is a desirable additive and the question of toxicity is a simple one of chemical analysis. In Bebington at present there is no question of the sewage being at all likely to be contaminated significantly with toxic metals. As things are at present, in fact, there is no real treatment of sewage on any scale



in the borough, but it is something which is highly desirable and the argument that other authorities discharging into the Mersey do not treat their sewage is a very poor one. Only by getting a lead from progressive authorities with the backing of educated progressive ratepayers will rivers such as the Mersey be cleaned up again after the ravages of almost a century and a half of sheer ignorance by the riparian authorities. If it is not ignorance then there is even more reason for censure. However, in any event composting of refuse is not dependent on sewage sludge and ammonia liquor or even plain water can be used. Composting of refuse seems at the moment to be the most scientific and reasonable method of refuse disposal for a civilised affluent society.

In an affluent society with full employment labour for ash bin collection is difficult to get and tends to be unsatisfactory in quality. Ash bins are noisy, even with rubber lids, and kerbside emptying into vehicles is noisy and dusty and the work is unpleasant. A fairly recent development is the collection of refuse by paper sacks and whilst it is a little early to judge this would seem to be the next advance in this work.

A public enquiry on the Woodhead Street Clearance Area was held in the spring and after a very long interval Ministerial approval was given to clear the area and tenants were being moved to new accommodation by the end of the year.

I have not commented very fully this year on the vital statistics. 1961 is census year and it is hoped that some tentative conclusions and remarks on trends shown by the vital statistics will be more apposite in the report for that year.

Once more I wish to thank Mr. Townson, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and all the staff for their enthusiasm, loyalty, support and efficiency.

Last but by no means least again I thank the Chairman and Health Committee for their interest, help and guidance during the year.

F. S. MELVILLE,  
Medical Officer of Health

## VITAL STATISTICS

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Area in acres                                       | 12,244   |
| Registrar General's estimated population (mid 1960) | 51,640   |
| Inhabited houses at 31st December, 1960             | 16,358   |
| Rateable Value at 31st December, 1960               | £922,420 |
| Yield of a Penny Rate (Estimate for 1960/61)        | £3,725   |

|                      |              |             |               |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| <b>Live Births:—</b> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> |
| Legitimate           | 845          | 458         | 387           |
| Illegitimate         | 25           | 11          | 14            |
|                      | <hr/> 870    |             |               |

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population       | 16.8 |
| Birth rate adjusted by comparability factor of 1.04    | 17.5 |
| Birth rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales  | 17.1 |
| Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births | 2.8% |

|                       |              |             |               |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| <b>Still Births:—</b> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> |
| Legitimate            | 13           | 8           | 5             |
| Illegitimate          | —            | —           | —             |
|                       | <hr/> 13     |             |               |

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Total live and still births                            | 883  |
| Still Birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births | 14.7 |
| for England and Wales                                  | 19.7 |

### Infant Deaths:—

|  |    |      |
|--|----|------|
| Deaths of Infants under ONE year—Legitimate  | 26 |      |
| Illegitimate   | 1  | 27   |
| Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births  |    | 31.0 |
| Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births  |    | 30.8 |
| Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births  |    | 40.0 |
| Deaths under FOUR WEEKS—Legitimate   | 20 |      |
| Illegitimate   | 1  | 21   |
| Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)                                  |    | 24.1 |
| for England and Wales  |    | 15.6 |
| Early Neonatal Deaths (under 1 week)   |    | 20   |
| Early Neonatal mortality rate (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)                                |    | 23.0 |
| Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) |    | 37.4 |

### Maternal Mortality (including Abortion):—

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Number of deaths                           | Nil  |
| Rate per 1,000 total live and still births | Nil  |
| for England and Wales                      | 0.39 |



**Deaths:—**

|   |              |             |               |  |
|---|--------------|-------------|---------------|--|
|   | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> |  |
|   | 554          | 302         | 255           |  |
| Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population      | ....         | 10.8        |               |  |
| Death rate adjusted by comparability factor of 1.11   | ....         | 12.0        |               |  |
| Death rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales |              |             | 11.5          |  |

|   |      |      |      |     |
|---|------|------|------|-----|
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (including Enteritis) |      |      |      |     |
| under 2 years of age                        | .... | 1    |      |     |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages)              | .... | .... | .... | Nil |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)       | .... | .... | .... | Nil |
| Deaths from Diphtheria (all ages)           | .... | .... | .... | Nil |

**TABLE I****Comparative Annual Numbers and Rates of Births and Deaths for Borough of Bebington since 1939**

| Year | Popula-<br>tion | Live Births  |  | Infant Deaths |                                     | Maternal Mortality |       |                                     | Deaths all ages |  |
|------|-----------------|--------------|--|---------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
|      |                 | Total<br>No. | Rate Per<br>1,000<br>Popu'n<br>(ad-<br>justed) | Total<br>No.  | Rate Per<br>1,000<br>Live<br>Births | Puer.<br>Fever     | Other | Rate Per<br>1,000<br>Live<br>Births | Total<br>No.    | Rate Per<br>1,000<br>Popu'n<br>(ad-<br>justed) |
| 1939 | 42,000          | 781          | 18.61  | 34            | 43.53                               | —                  | 2     | 2.56                                | 396             | 9.38   |
| 1940 | 43,180          | 682          | 13.48  | 46            | 67.2                                | 2                  | 1     | 4.68                                | 470             | 10.88  |
| 1941 | 41,910          | 688          | 16.42  | 36            | 52.6                                | —                  | 1     | 1.46                                | 482             | 11.5   |
| 1942 | 41,880          | 748          | 17.8   | 21            | 28.07                               | —                  | —     | —                                   | 403             | 9.6  |
| 1943 | 41,300          | 748          | 18.11  | 47            | 62.83                               | —                  | —     | —                                   | 455             | 11.01  |
| 1944 | 41,970          | 857          | 20.41  | 36            | 42.00                               | —                  | —     | —                                   | 434             | 10.34  |
| 1945 | 42,390          | 788          | 18.3   | 39            | 49.00                               | 1                  | 2     | 3.8                                 | 419             | 10.02  |
| 1946 | 45,620          | 875          | 19.4   | 45            | 51.0                                | —                  | 1     | 1.14                                | 489             | 10.8   |
| 1947 | 46,640          | 914          | 19.6   | 47            | 51.3                                | —                  | 1     | 1.09                                | 470             | 10.1   |
| 1948 | 46,780          | 809          | 17.2   | 37            | 45.5                                | —                  | 1     | 1.2                                 | 432             | 9.2  |
| 1949 | 47,030          | 706          | 14.9   | 24            | 33.9                                | —                  | 2     | 2.8                                 | 471             | 9.9  |
| 1950 | 47,150          | 687          | 14.5   | 18            | 26.2                                | —                  | 1     | 1.4                                 | 460             | 9.7  |
| 1951 | 47,300          | 648          | 13.7   | 17            | 26.3                                | 1                  | —     | 1.52                                | 562             | 11.6   |
| 1952 | 47,790          | 651          | 13.7   | 17            | 26.2                                | —                  | —     | —                                   | 529             | 11.0   |
| 1953 | 48,220          | 643          | 12.9   | 21            | 32.6                                | —                  | —     | —                                   | 499             | 11.0   |
| 1954 | 48,740          | 635          | 13.7   | 15            | 23.6                                | —                  | —     | —                                   | 478             | 10.2   |
| 1955 | 49,100          | 663          | 14.2   | 19            | 28.7                                | —                  | —     | —                                   | 513             | 10.8   |
| 1956 | 49,950          | 753          | 15.8   | 16            | 21.2                                | —                  | —     | —                                   | 509             | 11.4   |
| 1957 | 50,150          | 766          | 15.9   | 10            | 13.1                                | —                  | —     | —                                   | 524             | 11.6   |
| 1958 | 50,540          | 772          | 15.9   | 21            | 27.2                                | —                  | —     | —                                   | 552             | 12.1   |
| 1959 | 51,050          | 816          | 16.6   | 18            | 22.1                                | —                  | —     | —                                   | 554             | 12.1   |
| 1960 | 51,640          | 870          | 17.5   | 27            | 31.0                                | —                  | —     | —                                   | 557             | 12.0   |

**Population**

The estimated population of the area of the borough at the 30th June, 1960 was 51,640. This is an increase of 590 and continues the upward trend which has been uninterrupted since the end of the war.

The accuracy of this figure cannot be vouched for as it is now nine years since there was an official census.

All statistical data for the year throughout this report is based on the mid-year estimate of 51,640.

TABLE II

## Causes of Death

1960

Arranged according to Registrar General's  
Short Classification, Age and Sex

|   | 0- |    | 5- |    | 15- |    | 25- |    | 45- |    | 65- |     | Total |     |
|---|----|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-------|-----|
|   | M  | F  | M  | F  | M   | F  | M   | F  | M   | F  | M   | F   | M     | F   |
| 1. Tuberculosis, respiratory                | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | .. | ..  | .. | 2   | ..  | 3     | -   |
| 2. Tuberculosis, other                      | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | 1  | ..  | 1  | ..  | .. | ..  | ..  | -     | 2   |
| 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases   | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | 2   | .. | ..  | ..  | 2     | -   |
| 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach             | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | 6   | 2  | 9   | 6   | 15    | 8   |
| 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus      | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | .. | 6   | 1  | 10  | 2   | 17    | 3   |
| 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast              | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | .. | 3   | .. | 4   | ..  | -     | 8   |
| 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus              | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | 3   | .. | 2   | ..  | -     | 5   |
| 14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | 1  | 2  | .. | .. | 1   | .. | 3   | 1  | 5   | 4  | 14  | 13  | 24    | 20  |
| 15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia                   | .. | .. | 1  | 2  | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | ..  | 1     | 3   |
| 16. Diabetes                                | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | .. | 3   | ..  | 1     | 3   |
| 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system      | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | 6   | 7  | 23  | 36  | 29    | 43  |
| 18. Coronary disease, angina                | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | .. | 30  | 12 | 42  | 43  | 73    | 55  |
| 19. Hypertension with heart disease         | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | 1  | 4   | 5   | 4     | 6   |
| 20. Other heart disease                     | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | 3   | 5  | 23  | 16  | 26    | 21  |
| 21. Other circulatory disease               | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1   | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | 1  | 6   | 3   | 7     | 5   |
| 22. Influenza                               | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | ..  | -     | 1   |
| 23. Pneumonia                               | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | 3   | 1  | 18  | 23  | 21    | 24  |
| 24. Bronchitis                              | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | .. | 3   | .. | 15  | 8   | 19    | 8   |
| 25. Other diseases of respiratory system    | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | 2   | .. | 2   | ..  | 4     | -   |
| 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum           | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | ..  | 1     | -   |
| 27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea      | .. | 1  | .. | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | .. | ..  | 1  | ..  | ..  | 1     | 2   |
| 28. Nephritis and nephrosis                 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1   | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | 1  | 2   | ..  | 3     | 2   |
| 29. Hyperplasia of prostate                 | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | 3   | ..  | 3     | -   |
| 31. Congenital malformations                | 2  | 3  | .. | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | ..  | 2     | 4   |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases  | 14 | 5  | .. | .. | 1   | .. | 1   | .. | 3   | 1  | 8   | 17  | 26    | 24  |
| 33. Motor vehicle accidents                 | 2  | .. | .. | .. | 1   | .. | 2   | .. | 5   | 1  | 1   | ..  | 10    | 2   |
| 34. All other accidents                     | 2  | .. | .. | .. | 3   | .. | 2   | .. | 1   | .. | 2   | 1   | 10    | 1   |
| 35. Suicide                                 | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..  | .. | 1   | 1  | ..  | 1  | 1   | ..  | 2     | 2   |
|   | 21 | 11 | 1  | 2  | 5   | 4  | 13  | 6  | 78  | 45 | 186 | 184 | 304   | 252 |
|   | 32 |    | 3  |    | 9   |    | 19  |    | 123 |    | 370 |     | 556*  |     |

\* The totals do not agree with those returned by the Registrar General. (*vide supra*). It is probable that the error arises in the transfer of some deaths occurring in hospital.

TABLE III.

Number of deaths from certain causes, death rate per 10,000 population, mean ages at death, years of "working life" lost and years of "total life" lost per 10,000 population.

|                 |                                      | 1960*        |                        |                   |  |                 |              | 1959*                  |                   |  |                 |              |                        | 1958*             |  |                 |              |                        |                   | 1957*                                    |                 |              |                        |                   |  | 1956*           |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------|--------------|------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------|--------------|------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------|--------------|------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------|--------------|------------------------|-------------------|--|-----------------|-----|------------------------|------------|-----------------|--|
| No.             | Cause of Death                       | Total Deaths |                        | Mean age at death | Years of Life lost per 10,000 population |                 | Total Deaths |                        | Mean age at death | Years of Life lost per 10,000 population |                 | Total Deaths |                        | Mean age at death | Years of Life lost per 10,000 population |                 | Total Deaths |                        | Mean age at death | Years of Life lost per 10,000 population |                 | Total Deaths |                        | Mean age at death | Years of Life lost per 10,000 population |                 |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 |                                      | No.          | Rate/10,000 population |                   | Ages 15-64                               | Total to age 85 | No.          | Rate/10,000 population |                   | Ages 15-64                               | Total to age 85 | No.          | Rate/10,000 population |                   | Ages 15-64                               | Total to age 85 | No.          | Rate/10,000 population |                   | Ages 15-64                               | Total to age 85 | No.          | Rate/10,000 population |                   | Ages 15-64                               | Total to age 85 | No. | Rate/10,000 population | Ages 15-64 | Total to age 85 |  |
|                 |                                      |              |                        |                   |  |                 |              |                        |                   |  |                 |              |                        |                   |  |                 |              |                        |                   |  |                 |              |                        |                   |  |                 |     |                        |            |                 |  |
| BEBINGTON       | All Causes                           | M. 304       | 124                    | 62.8              | 895                                      | 2,635           | 277          | 114                    | 64.2              | 758                                      | 2,330           | 300          | 125                    | 64.5              | 780                                      | 2,499           | 268          | 122                    | 66.2              | 533                                      | 2,006           | 264          | 111                    | 64.7              | 625                                      | 2,171           |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | I Tuberculosis of respiratory system | F. 252       | 93                     | 68.7              | 478                                      | 1,569           | 274          | 103                    | 70.3              | 424                                      | 1,557           | 250          | 94                     | 70.7              | 345                                      | 1,354           | 252          | 96                     | 68.5              | 461                                      | 1,557           | 245          | 93                     | 68.2              | 468                                      | 1,547           |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 10-15 Cancer (all sites)             | M. 3         | 1                      | 65.7              | 11                                       | 24              | 3            | 1                      | 64.3              | 11                                       | 27              | 3            | 1                      | 62.3              | 6  | 26              | 2            | 0.8                    | 66                | 0  | 8               | 6            | 3                      | 59.2              | 12                                       | 52              |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 11 Cancer of Lung, Bronchus          | F. 57        | 23                     | 62.6              | 154                                      | 476             | 53           | 22                     | 63.8              | 121                                      | 444             | 50           | 21                     | 66.7              | 79                                       | 350             | 55           | 23                     | 64.6              | 103                                      | 419             | 47           | 20                     | 65.3              | 139                                      | 429             |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 12 Cancer of breast                  | F. 47        | 17                     | 62.0              | 130                                      | 360             | 42           | 16                     | 68.5              | 50                                       | 242             | 40           | 15                     | 67                | 63                                       | 243             | 45           | 17                     | 64.9              | 85                                       | 297             | 43           | 16                     | 65.1              | 87                                       | 292             |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 17 Vascular lesions of C.N.S.        | M. 17        | 7                      | 65.1              | 29                                       | 122             | 17           | 7                      | 63.0              | 35                                       | 138             | 19           | 8                      | 69.5              | 18                                       | 119             | 24           | 10                     | 63                | 43                                       | 194             | 15           | 6                      | 61.2              | 37                                       | 133             |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 18 Coronary disease                  | F. 8         | 3                      | 64.6              | 17                                       | 57              | 7            | 3                      | 63.7              | 11                                       | 49              | 7            | 3                      | 57.6              | 17                                       | 64              | 5            | 2                      | 69.2              | 6  | 30              | 6            | 2                      | 58.2              | 23                                       | 54              |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 19, 20 Other cardiac diseases        | M. 29        | 12                     | 71.4              | 18                                       | 151             | 40           | 16                     | 71.7              | 40                                       | 224             | 36           | 15                     | 73.5              | 21                                       | 194             | 27           | 11                     | 73.3              | 19                                       | 147             | 21           | 9                      | 70                | 22                                       | 132             |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 23, 24 Bronchitis and Pneumonia      | F. 43        | 16                     | 75.8              | 19                                       | 170             | 59           | 22                     | 75.7              | 22                                       | 217             | 44           | 17                     | 73.8              | 28                                       | 199             | 48           | 18                     | 75.5              | 20                                       | 191             | 45           | 17                     | 74.1              | 20                                       | 183             |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum     | M. 73        | 30                     | 65.5              | 102                                      | 506             | 71           | 29                     | 66.9              | 92                                       | 487             | 84           | 35                     | 68.8              | 111                                      | 535             | 73           | 31                     | 66                | 112                                      | 510             | 78           | 33                     | 65.1              | 144                                      | 604             |     |                        |            |                 |  |
| ENGLAND & WALES | All Causes                           | F. 55        | 20                     | 71.3              | 33                                       | 241             | 54           | 20                     | 71.8              | 42                                       | 263             | 50           | 19                     | 73.6              | 20                                       | 194             | 48           | 18                     | 72.3              | 46                                       | 233             | 37           | 14                     | 75.3              | 46                                       | 203             |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | I Tuberculosis of respiratory system | F. 27        | 10                     | 73.6              | 17                                       | 118             | 35           | 13                     | 74.8              | 19                                       | 141             | 48           | 18                     | 78.4              | 8  | 159             | 27           | 11                     | 71.4              | 26                                       | 122             | 44           | 17                     | 78.4              | 12                                       | 158             |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 10-15 Cancer (all sites)             | M. 40        | 16                     | 73.9              | 29                                       | 207             | 36           | 15                     | 70.9              | 62                                       | 229             | 38           | 16                     | 66.3              | 91                                       | 304             | 39           | 16                     | 67.6              | 51                                       | 246             | 34           | 14                     | 70.5              | 45                                       | 220             |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 11 Cancer of Lung, Bronchus          | F. 32        | 12                     | 81.1              | 3  | 96              | 29           | 11                     | 81.2              | 3  | 89              | 23           | 9                      | 67.4              | 62                                       | 168             | 32           | 12                     | 72.7              | 39                                       | 163             | 28           | 11                     | 75.3              | 27                                       | 131             |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 12 Cancer of breast                  | M. 1         | 0.4                    | 68                | —  | 4               | 4            | 2                      | 63.0              | 14                                       | 38              | 3            | 1                      | 74                | —  | 12              | 4            | 2                      | 66.5              | 6  | 30              | 2            | 0.8                    | 66.5              | —  | 8               |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 17 Vascular lesions of C.N.S.        | F. 20        | 8                      | 36.7              | 195                                      | 364             | 13           | 5                      | 39.9              | 151                                      | 255             | 10           | 4                      | 40.7              | 87                                       | 173             | 10           | 4                      | 42.4              | 108                                      | 184             | 5            | 2                      | 59.4              | 18                                       | 50              |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 18 Coronary disease                  | M. 3         | 1                      | 48.3              | 19                                       | 37              | 4            | 1                      | 56.8              | 24                                       | 47              | 3            | 1                      | 73.7              | —  | 9               | 3            | 1                      | 41.3              | 27                                       | 52              | 4            | 2                      | 53.8              | 27                                       | 48              |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 19, 20 Other cardiac diseases        | F. 269,878   | 123                    | 65.7              | 737                                      | 2,383           | 270,639      | 124                    | 65.7              | 742                                      | 2,398           | 266,407      | 123                    | 65.3              | 756                                      | 2,422           | 267,904      | 125                    | 65.7              | 747                                      | 2,407           |              |                        |                   |  |                 |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 23, 24 Bronchitis and Pneumonia      | M. 257,773   | 110                    | 70.8              | 460                                      | 1,557           | 256,204      | 110                    | 70.7              | 458                                      | 1,565           | 248,463      | 107                    | 70.0              | 482                                      | 1,600           | 253,427      | 109                    | 70.4              | 472                                      | 1,601           |              |                        |                   |  |                 |     |                        |            |                 |  |
|                 | 26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum     | F. 2,620     | 1                      | 60.6              | 9  | 27              | 2,949        | 1                      | 59.2              | 11                                       | 32              | 3,150        | 1                      | 59.1              | 12                                       | 35              | 3,534        | 2                      | 57.8              | 14                                       | 41              |              |                        |                   |  |                 |     |                        |            |                 |  |

\* These figures calculated on weights given in Registrar General's 2nd Quarterly Return for the previous year being the most recent standard set of weights available.



## **Births**

870 live births were referable to the borough which gave a rate of 17.5 per thousand of the population compared to 816 and 16.6 the previous year. This is again a rise in the rate and the highest rate recorded since 1947, the peak year of the immediate post-war bulge.

25 illegitimate births were registered during the year.

## **Deaths**

According to the Registrar General 557 deaths were referable to Bebington during 1960 giving a crude death rate of 10.8 and an adjusted death rate of 12.0. The locally determined figure of 556 does not alter these rates as the difference of one is insignificant in numbers of this order.

### **Deaths from various causes**

Table III is again given to show the more important diseases which are responsible for the deaths of people, many of whom are still well within the normal retiring age of sixty-five.

There are no particularly significant changes in this table from last year but then it is not expected that there would be and only by showing these figures over many years will trends be spotted.

## **Infant Mortality**

27 infants under one year of age died giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 31.0 per thousand compared with 18 deaths and a rate of 22.1 in 1959. 21 of these deaths were under one month.

The mortality rate of infants under one month and still births rose to 39 per 1,000 live and still born children. The Perinatal Mortality Rate which is now recognised as the rate for infant deaths under one week and still births was 37.4.

## **Maternal Mortality**

No maternal death has occurred in the borough since 1951. Statistically, on the basis of the national figures, one maternal death should occur in the borough about once in every four years.



TABLE IV

Stillbirths, Neonatal (Infants under 1 month) Deaths and Rates  
per 1,000 Live and Still Births

| Year | Total No.<br>of Live<br>and still<br>Births | No. of<br>Still<br>Births | Still Birth<br>Rate per<br>1,000 Live<br>and Still<br>Births | No. of<br>Deaths<br>Infants<br>under one<br>month | Neonatal<br>Death<br>Rate per<br>1,000 Live<br>and Still<br>Births | No. of<br>Still<br>Births<br>plus No.<br>of<br>Neonatal<br>Deaths | Neo-Natal<br>Death and<br>Still Birth<br>Rate per<br>1,000 Live<br>and Still<br>Births |
|------|---|---------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|
| 1939 | 807   | 26                        | 32   | 26  | 32   | 52  | 64   |
| 1940 | 722   | 38                        | 53   | 22  | 30   | 60  | 83   |
| 1941 | 708   | 24                        | 34   | 18  | 25   | 42  | 59   |
| 1942 | 771   | 23                        | 30   | 8   | 10   | 31  | 40   |
| 1943 | 788   | 40                        | 51   | 29  | 25   | 60  | 76   |
| 1944 | 884   | 27                        | 31   | 23  | 26   | 50  | 57   |
| 1945 | 881   | 23                        | 28   | 23  | 29   | 46  | 57   |
| 1946 | 900   | 25                        | 28   | 32  | 35   | 57  | 63   |
| 1947 | 936   | 22                        | 24   | 35  | 37   | 57  | 61   |
| 1948 | 832   | 23                        | 28   | 26  | 31   | 49  | 59   |
| 1949 | 730   | 19                        | 26   | 19  | 26   | 38  | 52   |
| 1950 | 711   | 24                        | 34   | 15  | 21   | 39  | 55   |
| 1951 | 655   | 7                         | 11   | 11  | 16   | 18  | 27   |
| 1952 | 670   | 19                        | 28   | 15  | 23   | 34  | 51   |
| 1953 | 661   | 18                        | 27   | 15  | 23   | 33  | 50   |
| 1954 | 654   | 19                        | 29   | 13  | 20   | 32  | 49   |
| 1955 | 681   | 18                        | 26   | 13  | 20   | 31  | 46   |
| 1956 | 771   | 18                        | 23   | 13  | 16   | 31  | 39   |
| 1957 | 786   | 20                        | 25   | 6   | 8  | 26  | 33   |
| 1958 | 785   | 13                        | 17   | 15  | 19   | 28  | 36   |
| 1959 | 828   | 12                        | 15   | 15  | 18   | 27  | 33   |
| 1960 | 883   | 13                        | 15   | 21  | 24   | 34  | 39   |



TABLE V

Number of notified infectious diseases occurring in Bebington according to year and disease.

| DISEASE                                 | YEAR |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|   | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 |
| Scarlet Fever ....                      | 54   | 55   | 72   | 46   | 77   | 55   | 34   | 15   | 37   | 38   | 74   | 31   |
| Diphtheria ....                         | 15   | 4    | 3    | 8    | 3    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| Whooping Cough ....                     | 99   | 155  | 200  | 129  | 200  | 140  | 97   | 150  | 134  | 27   | 80   | 58   |
| Measles ....                            | 263  | 798  | 293  | 793  | 273  | 623  | 497  | 255  | 496  | 170  | 906  | 327  |
| Smallpox ..                             | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | 5    | —    | —    |
| Acute Poliomyelitis ....                | 3    | 5    | 4    | —    | 2    | 4    | 1    | 1    | 6    | 8    | 6    | 2    |
| Acute Encephalitis ....                 | 1    | —    | —    | 2    | —    | 3    | —    | —    | 1    | 1    | —    | —    |
| Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal) .... | 43   | 16   | 57   | 30   | 27   | 36   | 22   | 16   | 30   | 16   | 28   | 15   |
| Meningococcal Infection                 | —    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 1    | 3    | 3    | 2    | 2    | 1    | 3    | —    |
| Typhoid ....                            | —    | 2    | 1    | 1    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| Paratyphoid ....                        | 1    | —    | —    | —    | 2    | 2    | —    | 1    | 1    | —    | —    | —    |
| Dysentery ....                          | —    | 36   | 49   | 7    | 27   | 17   | 36   | 19   | 22   | 18   | 69   | 22   |
| Food Poisoning ....                     | —    | 69   | 60   | 19   | 17   | 23   | 47   | 9    | 4    | 54   | 20   | 48   |
| Erysipelas ....                         | 9    | 9    | 6    | 9    | 14   | 7    | 9    | 14   | 6    | 2    | 9    | 5    |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum                   | 2    | —    | —    | 2    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| Puerperal Pyrexia ....                  | 2    | 1    | 5    | 4    | 2    | 1    | 3    | 1    | 1    | —    | 3    | —    |
| Malaria ....                            | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | 1    | —    |

TABLE VI

Notified infectious diseases during year 1960 occurring in the different wards

|                                       | Hr. Bebington | Woodhey   | Lr. Bebington | Poulton   | Sunlight  | Park     | New Ferry | N. Bromborough | S. Bromborough | Eastham   | TOTAL      |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------------|----------------|-----------|------------|
| Scarlet Fever ...                     | 1             | 1         | 2             | 2         | 1         | —        | 3         | 8              | 3              | 10        | 31         |
| Whooping Cough ...                    | 1             | 5         | 5             | 2         | 3         | 2        | 20        | 8              | 9              | 3         | 58         |
| Measles ...                           | 29            | 23        | 51            | 51        | 40        | 4        | 29        | 14             | 32             | 54        | 327        |
| Acute Poliomyelitis ...               | —             | 1         | —             | —         | —         | —        | —         | 1              | —              | —         | 2          |
| Pneumonia, Primary and Influenzal ... | 1             | 3         | 4             | —         | —         | 1        | 2         | 2              | 1              | 1         | 15         |
| Dysentery ...                         | —             | 1         | —             | —         | 1         | —        | 1         | 19             | —              | —         | 22         |
| Food Poisoning ...                    | —             | 1         | —             | —         | —         | —        | —         | 2              | 1              | 3         | 7*         |
| Erysipelas ...                        | 1             | 1         | —             | 1         | 1         | 1        | —         | —              | —              | —         | 5          |
| <b>Totals ...</b>                     | <b>33</b>     | <b>36</b> | <b>62</b>     | <b>56</b> | <b>46</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>55</b> | <b>54</b>      | <b>46</b>      | <b>71</b> | <b>467</b> |

\* This figure does not agree with the total shown in Table V, as 41 of the cases notified were persons from other areas who were involved in the large outbreak which is referred to in page 13.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Scarlet Fever

31 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during 1960. This disease continues in a very mild form and no case was admitted to hospital during the year.

### Diphtheria

It is now seven years since a case of diphtheria was notified. This disease is now almost as exotic as smallpox but I would warn parents it is also almost as dangerous when introduced to the non-immunised person.

### Whooping Cough

58 cases of whooping cough were notified during the year. Eleven of these children had been immunised. Five cases were under one year, which is the age at which this disease is most severe. One of these had been immunised.

The protection afforded by the whooping cough inoculation does not seem to be as good as that afforded by diphtheria immunisation but the figures of incidence and age show clearly the advantages of immunisation and booster doses in modifying the disease and raising the age at which it is contracted and *ipso facto* lessening the severity of the disease.

### Measles

327 cases of measles were notified during the year. The majority of these occurred during the last two months of the year.

### Smallpox

No cases were notified in the Borough and no cases from elsewhere were admitted to New Ferry Isolation Hospital although at the end of the year it was still the area's reception hospital for these cases. An alternative hospital has been selected but has not yet been altered to make it fit for this purpose.

### Anterior Poliomyelitis

Two cases were notified during the year but only one of these was later confirmed. This was a man who was very severely affected. The man's mother who lives outside the borough had had a mild attack of "influenza" some four or five weeks previously. It is of some interest that in the prodromal stage of the disease when he obviously had an illness with "flu" type symptoms he was in contact with unprotected relatives including children and that several weeks later one of these children had a mild illness at which time blood specimens taken were subsequently found to have raised titres of neutralising antibody against all three types of poliovirus, suggesting inoculation rather than infection, but in fact the child had never been given any inoculations against poliomyelitis.

### Food Poisoning

48 cases of food poisoning were notified during the year with five otherwise ascertained.

A small outbreak involving three cases, two in Bebington, was finally thought to be due to eating roast chicken in a restaurant in another area. No organism was found and no other persons appeared to have been affected.

A large outbreak involved 45 people who had gathered in one of the local halls for a golden wedding celebration. Some of these were very ill and were admitted to hospital. The outbreak occurred concurrently with another in Birkenhead where the same caterers had supplied the food. The organism was almost certainly staphylococcus aureus and the vehicle trifles, once more illustrating the dangers of this type of foodstuff. Two of the handlers who prepared the food were found to be heavily infected with the organism, again illustrating the dangers when food handlers, innocently harbouring these dangerous bacteria do not practice scrupulous cleanliness.

## Dysentery

22 cases were notified during 1960. No outbreak of any note occurred and no reports of any person being seriously affected by it were received.

## Tuberculosis

The primary notifications of respiratory tuberculosis increased from 12 in 1959 to 17 in 1960, giving a rate of 0.33 per thousand of the population.

Deaths attributed to respiratory tuberculosis during 1960 numbered three. In one of these cases the patient had not previously been notified as suffering from the disease and had been unknown to the department.

**TABLE VII**  
**Primary notifications and the number of deaths from tuberculosis**  
**during 1960.**

| Age Periods  | Primary Notifications |          |                 |          | Deaths      |          |                 |          |
|--------------|-----------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|-------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
|              | Respiratory           |          | Non-Respiratory |          | Respiratory |          | Non-Respiratory |          |
| Years        | M.                    | F.       | M.              | F.       | M.          | F.       | M.              | F.       |
| 0—1          | —                     | —        | —               | —        | —           | —        | —               | —        |
| 1—5          | —                     | 1        | —               | —        | —           | —        | —               | —        |
| 5—15         | —                     | —        | —               | 1        | —           | —        | —               | —        |
| 15—25        | 4                     | 3        | —               | —        | —           | —        | —               | 1        |
| 25—35        | —                     | 2        | —               | 1        | —           | —        | —               | 1        |
| 35—45        | 2                     | —        | —               | —        | 1           | —        | —               | —        |
| 45—55        | 3                     | —        | —               | —        | —           | —        | —               | —        |
| 55—65        | —                     | —        | 1               | —        | —           | —        | —               | —        |
| Over 65      | 2                     | —        | —               | —        | 2           | —        | —               | —        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>11</b>             | <b>6</b> | <b>1</b>        | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b>    | <b>—</b> | <b>—</b>        | <b>2</b> |
|              | 17                    |          | 3               |          | 3           |          | 2               |          |
|              | 20                    |          |                 |          | 5           |          |                 |          |

TABLE VIII

The following table shows the number of primary notifications, the number of deaths, and the death rate from Tuberculosis during the last fourteen years:—

| Year | Primary Notifications |                   |                           |                   | Number of Deaths      |                   |                           |                   | Death-rate from Resp. T.B. England & Wales per 1000 popul'n |
|------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---|
|      | Respiratory Total No. | Rate/1000 popul'n | Non-Respiratory Total No. | Rate/1000 popul'n | Respiratory Total No. | Rate/1000 popul'n | Non-Respiratory Total No. | Rate/1000 popul'n |   |
| 1947 | 36                    | 0.753             | 8                         | 0.17              | 21                    | 0.45              | 3                         | 0.06              | 0.55  |
| 1948 | 37                    | 0.79              | 5                         | 0.11              | 18                    | 0.38              | 2                         | 0.04              | 0.51  |
| 1949 | 50                    | 1.06              | 6                         | 0.13              | 23                    | 0.49              | 2                         | 0.04              | 0.49  |
| 1950 | 41                    | 0.87              | 8                         | 0.17              | 11                    | 0.23              | —                         | —                 | 0.36  |
| 1951 | 47                    | 0.99              | 9                         | 0.19              | 11                    | 0.23              | 4                         | 0.08              | 0.32  |
| 1952 | 42                    | 0.88              | 11                        | 0.23              | 11                    | 0.23              | 4                         | 0.08              | 0.24  |
| 1953 | 35                    | 0.73              | 5                         | 0.10              | 4                     | 0.08              | 1                         | 0.02              | 0.20  |
| 1954 | 42                    | 0.86              | 12                        | 0.25              | 2                     | 0.04              | 2                         | 0.04              | 0.18  |
| 1955 | 29                    | 0.59              | 2                         | 0.04              | 5                     | 0.10              | —                         | —                 | 0.13  |
| 1956 | 44                    | 0.88              | 3                         | 0.06              | 9                     | 0.18              | —                         | —                 | 0.11  |
| 1957 | 36                    | 0.72              | 2                         | 0.04              | 2                     | 0.04              | —                         | —                 | 0.095   |
| 1958 | 21                    | 0.42              | 6                         | 0.12              | 4                     | 0.08              | 1                         | 0.02              | 0.10  |
| 1959 | 12                    | 0.24              | 3                         | 0.06              | 4                     | 0.08              | —                         | —                 | 0.077   |
| 1960 | 17                    | 0.33              | 3                         | 0.06              | 3                     | 0.06              | 2                         | 0.04              | 0.068   |

### Total Live Register at 31st December, 1960

|                       |       |            |            |            |
|-----------------------|-------|------------|------------|------------|
| Respiratory Cases     | ..... | 344        | (Dec. 1959 | 334)       |
| Non-Respiratory Cases | ....  | 39         | (Dec. 1959 | ... 42)    |
|                       |       | <u>383</u> |            | <u>376</u> |

### Medical Examinations

During the year the Medical Officer has carried out 142 medical examinations for new employees, superannuation and sick pay purposes.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

TABLE IX

This Table shows the number and types of Inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1960.

| Number and Nature of Inspections Made | Totals for 1960 | Informal Notices | Statutory Notices | Notices complied with |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Dwellinghouses inspected              | 1397            | 168              | —                 | 173                   |
| Dwellinghouses reinspected            | 1286            | —                | 44                | —                     |
| Overcrowding                          | 9               | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Tents, Vans and Sheds                 | 72              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Courts and Passages                   | 37              | 8                | —                 | 2                     |
| House Drainage                        | 568             | 80               | 16                | 69                    |
| Schools                               | 23              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Places of Employment e.g.             |                 |                  |                   |                       |
| *Shops                                | 617             | 35               | —                 | 20                    |
| Factories, with Mechanical Power      | 69              | 1                | —                 | —                     |
| Factories, without Mechanical Power   | 3               | 1                | —                 | —                     |
| Workplaces                            | 28              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Places of Entertainment               | 54              | 1                | —                 | —                     |
| Hairdressers                          | 11              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Verminous Premises                    | 254             | 1                | —                 | 1                     |
| Public Conveniences                   | 34              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Pail Closets                          | 73              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Ditches and Watercourses              | 151             | 1                | 1                 | 1                     |
| Septic Tanks                          | 101             | 6                | —                 | —                     |
| Dustbins                              | 1341            | 391              | —                 | 391                   |
| Food Premises                         | 1015            | 65               | —                 | 49                    |
| Food Hawkers                          | 12              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Slaughterhouses                       | 356             | 1                | —                 | 1                     |
| Piggeries                             | 54              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Cowsheds                              | 21              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Pet Shops                             | 8               | 6                | —                 | —                     |
| Keeping of Animals                    | 54              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Sampling:                             |                 |                  |                   |                       |
| Visits                                | 88              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Bacteriological                       | 146             | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Nature and Substance                  | 118             | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Swimming Bath Water                   | 14              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Tap Water                             | 5               | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Infectious Disease                    | 46              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Food Poisoning                        | 242             | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Rodent Control                        | 727             | 1                | —                 | —                     |
| Offensive Accumulations               | 83              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Smoke Observations                    | 239             | 3                | —                 | —                     |
| Noise Nuisances                       | 22              | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Air Pollution, Observations           | 875             | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Miscellaneous                         | 311             | —                | —                 | —                     |
| Appointments outside Office           | 197             | —                | —                 | —                     |
| TOTALS                                | 10761           | 769              | 61                | 707                   |

\*Visits re Closing and Employment etc., not included. See Report under Shops Act.



## HOUSING

### Inspections

It was not possible during the year to continue house to house inspections in the New Ferry area, as in the previous year, on account of the increased work entailed in surveys for Smoke Control Areas. Detailed house surveys were made, however, in various parts of the Borough with a view to formulating the next five-year Slum Clearance programme. It is expected that the first five-year programme will be completed by the end of 1961 and the next phase should not produce any problems as it is not anticipated that an average of more than twenty houses a year will be represented.

### Clearance Areas

During the year under review a formal enquiry was held in May in respect of the (Woodhead Street Clearance Area No. 4) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1960. Later in the year this Order was confirmed by the Minister who determined that eight houses were eligible for a well maintained grant. Rehousing of the occupants commenced in October, and by the end of the year 40 houses had been vacated, and 43 families rehoused. The Council's policy of disinfesting the tenant's furniture by a private firm and their bedding by the Health Department before removal to their new homes, was again carried out.

In February, 1960, representation was made in respect of 17 houses in Alma Street, New Ferry, the total number of persons involved being 57, comprising 19 families. Later in the year 15, 17, 23 and 27 New Ferry Road were represented as being individually unfit, and the Council resolved that as Nos. 19, 21 and 25 would be required for the purpose of securing a Clearance Area for redevelopment, a Compulsory Purchase Order be made on the whole area. The number of persons affected were 16 adults and six children, comprising seven families.

### Individual Unfit Houses

During the year the Council made three formal representations under the Housing Act, which were accepted by the Council, in respect of Brookhurst Farm, "Glen View West", Raby, and Iron Cottage, Poulton. A Closing Order was made on "Glen View West" having regard to the fact that it was inexpedient to make a Demolition Order due to the effect demolition would have upon the adjoining premises. In respect of Iron Cottage, application was made on behalf of the owner for planning permission to use the premises as a Scouts Headquarters, and subsequently in lieu of making a Demolition Order, an undertaking was accepted from the owner that the premises should not be used for human habitation.



The following properties were demolished during the year:—

*Clearance Area No. 1 (Bunns Place and Victoria Place) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1956*

1 to 13, 2 to 14, Manley Place

8 to 16, Grove Street

*Individual Unfit Houses*

Woodside Cottage, Storeton

Brookhurst Farm, Bromborough

## House Repairs

A total of 818 complaints were received during the year, and the nuisance sections of the Public Health Act, 1936, were relied upon to secure their abatement of disrepair. The complaints resulted in 168 informal and 44 statutory notices being served.

## Rent Act 1957

As was expected the year showed a big decrease in the number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair. Applications for Certificates were received from only two occupiers and in each case a Certificate was granted. It was noticeable that in both cases many items of Disrepair were left off the Form G.

The following figures indicate the work carried out under this Act:—

- 2 Applications by tenants for Certificate of Disrepair (Form I)
- 2 Notices to Landlords of Proposal to issue Certificate of Disrepair (Form J)
- 2 Undertakings by Landlord to remedy defects as proposed to be included on Certificate of Disrepair (Form K)
- 1 Application by Landlord for Cancellation of Certificate of Disrepair (Form M)
- 3 Applications by tenant (Form O)
- 3 Certificates to Landlord recommending all defects remedied as per undertaking (Form P)
- 1 Application for Cancellation of Certificate of Disrepair not granted (Form R)

## Overcrowding

Overcrowding is no longer a serious general problem and no complaints were made during the year on these grounds. A total of nine visits were made by the Inspectors to properties where it was known lodgers were housed.

## Movable Dwellings

Once again caravans and food stalls used by the showmen at the New Ferry Fair were found on inspection, to be of a high standard and well maintained. The food stalls were well equipped to comply with the Food Hygiene Regulation Standards and a keen interest was shown by the stallholders in relation to food hygiene.

At the onset of the Fair difficulty was experienced regarding the inadequacy of toilet facilities, but this was overcome by co-operation with the Manager.

The Cheshire Agricultural Show was once again held in the Borough and active co-operation was given to this Department by the Showyard Director in enabling the inspectors to visit and inspect all cafes, canteens, bars and food stalls, and advise the personnel engaged in handling food of the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations, before the Show opened. During the opening day of the Show regular inspections were carried out at all food stalls and conveniences and except for the offensive state of one large block of ladies W.C.'s which were quickly cleansed on request, no nuisances were observed or complaints received.

### **Disinfestation**

As in previous years disinfestation of properties was carried out by this Department. During the course of the year nine houses were found to be infested with bed bugs and subsequently treated.

At the commencement of the rehousing of Woodhead Street Area complaints were received from occupiers of surrounding properties of cockroach infestation and these were actively dealt with. Regular observations have been carried out and no further complaints were received up to the end of the year.

The following figures show the number of premises found to be verminous and consequently treated:—

|                       |   |   |                      |
|-----------------------|---|---|----------------------|
| 9 houses for bed bugs |   |   |                      |
| 11                    | „ | „ | woodworm infestation |
| 124                   | „ | „ | other vermin         |

### **Hydrogen Cyanide Regulations**

One notification was received from private operators under the above regulations for treatment of a church infested with woodworm.

## **CLEAN AIR**

During the year the preliminary survey on (The Borough of Bebington) Area No. 2 was completed, and the provisional plan submitted to the Minister which was subsequently approved. A detailed survey was completed and it is expected that a Smoke Control Order will be made in respect of this area in 1961.

The area in question is bounded by the southerly side of Heath Road, the easterly side of Cross Lane to a point where if Quarry Avenue was continued would meet Cross Lane, the northerly side of Quarry Avenue, northerly side of Fairacres Road, the westerly side of Church Road, the westerly side of The Village to its junction with Heath Road. It is approximately 58 acres in size and comprises 289 dwellings and 8 commercial premises. The total number of fireplaces requiring adaptation will be 340 at a total cost of £1,700. It is expected that the total cost of works including the installation of gas will be £4,774, the cost to the Local Authority being £1,432 4s. 0d.

At the latter end of the year under review the survey of Area No. 3 comprising 665 dwellings and covering approximately 290 acres had been commenced.

Three applications were received during the year under Section 3, Clean Air Act, 1956, for prior approval to instal furnaces. All applications were approved.

It was found necessary during the year to serve five informal notices under the Clean Air Act in consequence of offences observed.

### **Queen Elizabeth II Oil Dock**

In May a complaint was received from the nearby residents to the above Dock, of a serious smoke nuisance, from the M.V. *Clutha River*. The vessel was boarded by an Inspector from the Manchester Port Health Authority and the Borough and the necessary notice served on the Master. Repairs were being carried out to the boilers at the time of the nuisance, and one boiler had to be kept in use to prevent oil spoilage. This offence was considered by the Port Health Authority who decided that no legal action should be taken in view of the fact that all possible measures were taken to carry out the boiler repairs without delay. There were no further complaints during the remainder of the year.

## **ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION**

In the latter part of April, complaints were received by this Department from the staff of two factories situated in the Bromborough Area. These complainants alleged that they had experienced skin irritations in the form of itching, and sometimes soreness of the face, and the members of the female staff also complained that small holes were appearing in their nylon stockings.

During the initial investigations the cause of the trouble appeared to be from black smuts emitted from an oil fired plant or plants. Petri dishes smeared with vaseline were laid around the two oil fired Power Stations in the Borough. The smuts caught were sent to the Public Analyst who reported them to contain strong Sulphuric Acid. During the Sunday afternoon on the 15th May a heavy "fall out" was experienced in the Eastham Ferry area. This, on investigation, proved to be coming from the C.E.A. Power Station, causing heavy contamination and burning of the surrounding vegetation, severe irritation to skin and damage to ladies' nylon stockings. Samples of black smuts taken during the afternoon of the 15th May and forwarded to the Public Analyst were found to contain concentrated Sulphuric Acid.

Further tests were made with filter papers, fitted to wooden trays, and in various positions around the two Power Stations, and from these tests and observations carried out by the Public Health Inspectors, it was ascertained that the smuts emitted from the C.E.A. Power Station were still impregnated with acid. Representations were made to the Station Superintendent pointing out the seriousness of the complaints, and also to the Alkali Inspector, who is responsible

for this Power Station. Close contact was maintained between this Department, the Alkali Inspector and the Power Station Superintendent, and immediate steps were taken to reduce the acidity, and a long term programme was instituted to find a permanent cure. From July to the end of September there was a lull in the number of complaints received, but this was undoubtedly due to the "favourable" wind direction blowing the plume across the River. Tests were continued by this Department, and the results during the latter part of September and during the month of October, when the wind was again blowing from an easterly direction, proved that the smuts emitted from the C.E.A. Power Station stacks were of acid nature. Many complaints were again received during this period, and in consequence an application was made by the Council to the Minister of Housing and Local Government, under the Alkali, etc., Works Regulation Act, 1906, requesting that an enquiry be made into the alleged nuisance from acid smut emissions from the Bromborough Power Station. In his reply the Minister stated that "he was satisfied that the best practicable means was being taken to keep the emissions down to a minimum and as it was not being operated in contravention of the Act, it was not considered that any further enquiry by him into this problem would serve any useful purpose at the present time."

During this period remedial measures were continued at the Power Station, including injecting Magnesium Sulphate as an additive into the flue gases at the rear of the boilers to reduce the acid content, washing out of each boiler every four weeks, using the electrostatic precipitator in mechanical form, increasing the steam pressure on entering the burners, and finally redesigning the burners to give more efficient combustion.

Since November no further complaints were received and tests carried out by this Department showed negative results, and although this Department are satisfied that a vast amount of work has been done to eliminate the nuisance, no final answer can be given as to whether the cure is permanent until the wind direction is "unfavourable" that is, blowing in an easterly direction for two or three weeks.

In the eight months when the nuisance persisted, a vast amount of work was undertaken both during and out of working hours, by the public health inspectors. It was carried out in an efficient and conscientious manner often under trying conditions. Finally mention must be made of the active co-operation received from the Power Station Superintendent who also gave the Department authority to inspect the plant at any time.

## GENERAL SANITATION

### Water Supply

The water is supplied by the West Cheshire Water Board from three sources, i.e. Prenton, Mouldsworth and Sutton Hall, the Hooton source having been closed and will now only be used in any emergency.



The Prenton and Mouldsworth supplies are obtained from deep boreholes and adits, using steam and electrically driven pumping plant; water from each source being sterilised by chloramination.

The Sutton Hall supply is obtained by pumping water from the River Dee at Chester to treatment works providing for sedimentation, filtration and sterilisation with chlorine. Activated carbon is also added when necessary, for the elimination of tastes and lime for increasing the pH. Water, after treatment, is pumped into supply with electrically operated plant.

The River Dee supply is generally a softer water than that obtained from Prenton and Mouldsworth and although it was not possible to resume softening of borehole supplies during the year it is intended to do so when the existing plant has been reconstructed.

The water supply in the area has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological and chemical examinations are carried out both on the raw water and the treated water at regular intervals by the Board's Chemist. In addition, fortnightly bacteriological examinations and quarterly chemical examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratories. In all cases the results have shown a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

There has been no case of contamination.

## **Sewerage**

On completion of the Dibbin Sewer Scheme early next year the arrangements for sewerage and sewerage disposal in the Borough will be reasonably adequate. Serious flooding, however, does take place in the Bromborough area and to a lesser degree in the Eastham area. The relief scheme for the Bromborough area is at present under design, and it only remains for the Eastham scheme to be carried out to complete the comprehensive proposals for the built-up areas, if one leaves aside the matter of treatment of effluent before discharge into the Mersey.

There is pollution of many of the ditches in the rural areas but the Raby scheme which is to commence next year should eliminate some of this.

## **House Drainage**

568 visits were made in connection with testing, examining and clearing of drains which necessitated the service of 80 notices. The policy of the Local Authority in clearing house drains on request continued as in previous years.

## **Dustbins**

At the end of the year under review 5,862 dustbins had been supplied under the Council scheme.

During the year the following number of bins were supplied:—

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| By Local Authority          | 651 |
| „ Owners following notices  | 30  |
| „ Tenants following notices | 13  |
| Bins renewed                | 221 |

The above figures do not include Corporation property.

A certain amount of difficulty has been encountered during the year when houses have become vacant. It is the practice to bring into stock the bin from these vacant houses and return when re-occupied. In a number of cases through unavoidable delay this Department has not been notified until a few weeks have elapsed since the houses became vacant. On visiting the premises it was then found that either the bins were missing or the bins on the premises were of the wrong number corresponding to the houses in question, resulting in Inspectors spending valuable time in straightening out these difficulties with the Borough Engineer and Surveyor's Cleansing Department.

### Public Conveniences

During the year 34 routine visits were made to the various conveniences situated in the Borough. All defects found were notified to the Borough Engineer and Surveyor and were promptly dealt with. One new convenience at "Plymyard", Eastham, was completed and opened during the year.

### Cesspools and Septic Tanks

With the granting of car allowance to public health inspectors it was possible to make 101 visits and revisits to inspect cesspools and septic tanks in the outlying areas. In the majority of cases although the tanks were structurally sound, it was found that complete neglect existed in regard to regular cleansing and cleaning or changing of the filter media. In most cases remedies were effected following verbal warnings.

### Schools

Regular inspections of schools in the Borough continued throughout the year particular attention being given to sanitary conveniences and washing facilities.

Arrangements also exist with the Cheshire County Council for regular inspection of their schools with regard to the eradication of rodents. If found necessary treatment is carried out by the Local Authority rodent operators, and this resulted in 376 visits and 26 treatments during the year.



## **Tips**

The Mayfields Tip, New Ferry, is now rapidly filling up, and tipping is expected to cease early next year. The question of an alternative site or methods of refuse disposal were discussed by the various committees, and it was finally agreed that an area of land of approximately 22 acres, to the south of Spital Road, be used for controlled tipping. A local enquiry was held during the year by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government into the application for planning permission for the use of this land as a refuse tip, following objections from local residents. The application was granted subject to certain conditions, and to the exclusion from the area of a small part of the site situated to the west of the valley. Tipping is not expected to commence at Spital until mid-summer next year, and it has been found necessary to utilise a large depression at Jobs Ferry, Eastham, for controlled tipping, which it is hoped will last for six months. Application for planning permission has been made.

Regular visits by both public health inspectors and rodent operators to the Mayfields Tip continued during the year, and the early treatment of any rat infestation found resulted in no complaints being received from near-by residents. The Tip surface was sprayed regularly against flies and crickets.

## **Mortuary**

During the year five bodies were received into the Mortuary. As in previous years the regular cleansing of the mortuary was carried out by this Department.

## **Infectious Disease**

46 enquiries were made by public health inspectors during the year, a decrease of 60 per cent as compared with last year. As a result of these enquiries the disinfection of premises and articles were carried out by this Department.

## **Pet Shops**

I am happy once again to place on record the high standard of cleanliness maintained in Pet Shops in the Borough. During visits special attention was given by the public health inspectors to the handling and treatment of the animals.

## **Factories Acts, 1937 and 1959**

The number of factories at the end of the year totalled 153 an overall increase of 17. Due to the work involved in smoke control areas, it was not found possible to cover the whole of the factories during routine inspections.

The following tables show the results of inspections in the form required by the Minister of Labour:—

**TABLE X 1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH**

| Premises  | Number on Register | Number of inspections | Number of written notices | Number of occupiers prosecuted |
|---|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities                    | 29                 | 3                     | 1                         | —                              |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority                    | 101                | 69                    | 2                         | —                              |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) | 15                 | 15                    | —                         | —                              |
| Total   | 145                | 87                    | 3                         | —                              |

**TABLE XI 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND**

| Particulars   | No. of cases in which defects were found |          |                            |                            | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|---|--|----------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
|   | Found                                    | Remedied | Referred to H.M. Inspector | Referred by H.M. Inspector |   |
| Want of Cleanliness   | 2  | 2        | —                          | —                          | —   |
| Overcrowding  | —  | —        | —                          | —                          | —   |
| Unreasonable temperature  | —  | —        | —                          | —                          | —   |
| Inadequate ventilation  | —  | —        | —                          | —                          | —   |
| Ineffective drainage of floors  | —  | —        | —                          | —                          | —   |
| Sanitary Conveniences   |  |          |                            |                            |   |
| (a) Insufficient  | —  | —        | —                          | —                          | —   |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective   | —  | —        | —                          | —                          | —   |
| (c) Not separate for sexes  | —  | —        | —                          | —                          | —   |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | —  | —        | —                          | —                          | —   |
| Total   | 2  | 2        | —                          | —                          | —   |

## RODENT CONTROL

### Surface Infestations

During the year energetic measures have been taken to control rodent nuisance, and sources of infestation have been systematically exterminated; 172 complaints of surface infestations were received during 1960 compared with 180 during the previous year.

A notable feature during the year is the considerable increase in the number of visits made to factories and workplaces, no fewer than 948 such visits being made. The probable reason for this is the increasing popularity of the annual contract which ensures regular monthly maintenance treatments assuring the prevention of possible nuisance. No fewer than 70 such contracts were operable during the year, and very many of these are industrial contracts, the work involved requiring several routine and treatment visits sometimes covering considerable areas in each factory.

Warfarin ready mixed poison bait is still the rodenticide used. Experience has proved this to be more generally advantageous, being reliable and yet domestically safe.

### Sewer Maintenance Treatment

Test baiting of combined sewer manholes was carried out during 1960 in the New Ferry and Higher Bebington areas. Two manholes were successfully test baited, and these and others within the same system were accordingly treated with zinc phosphide poison, a partial take showing in one manhole only.

It seems that the sewers are relatively free from rat infestation; this may well be due to the surcharging of the sewers on the combined system during heavy rainfall. Details and Cost:—

|                                       | Manholes<br>test<br>baited | Manholes<br>pre or poison<br>baited |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| No. of Manholes                       | 82                         | 10                                  |
| No. of Manholes showing complete take | 2                          | Nil                                 |
| No. of Manholes showing partial take  | —                          | 1                                   |
| Cost per Manhole baited               | 4/10½d.                    | —                                   |
| Cost per infested Manhole             | —                          | 6/8½d.                              |

The following statistics indicate the work carried out during 1960:—

|                 |       |                            |
|-----------------|-------|----------------------------|
| Major Primary   | ..... | Infestation of 20 and over |
| Minor Secondary | ..... | Infestation of up to 20    |

|   | Type of Property |  |                                       |                           |              |
|---|------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
|   | Local Authority  | Dwelling Houses including Council Houses | All other including Business Premises | Total of Columns 1, 2 & 3 | Agricultural |
| Properties inspected as a result of                                     |                  |  |                                       |                           |              |
| (a) Notification .....  | 2                | 135                                      | 32                                    | 169                       | 3            |
| (b) Survey under the Act .....  | 7                | 144                                      | 40                                    | 191                       | 22           |
| (c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) .... | 3                | 15                                       | 17                                    | 35                        | 1            |
| Total inspections carried out incl. Reinspections                       | 468              | 1452                                     | 1970                                  | 3890                      | 98           |
| No. of Properties inspected which were found to be infested by:         |                  |  |                                       |                           |              |
| Rats .... Major ....  | —                | 3  | 6                                     | 9                         | —            |
| Minor ....  | 2                | 55                                       | 19                                    | 76                        | 9            |
| Mice .... Major ....  | —                | 2  | 1                                     | 3                         | —            |
| Minor ....  | —                | 27                                       | 11                                    | 38                        | —            |
| No. of infested properties treated by L.A. ....                         | 4                | 60                                       | 34                                    | 98                        | 4            |
| Total treatments carried out inc. re-treatments                         | 9                | 72                                       | 60                                    | 141                       | 4            |

## Types of visits made:—

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses) .....        | 1452        |
| L. A. Property (1) Tips and non agricultural work ..... | 264         |
| (2) Sewage Works .....                                  | 117         |
| (3) Other buildings .....                               | 87          |
| Business (1) Factories and Workplaces .....             | 948         |
| Premises (2) Shops .....                                | 158         |
| (3) Places of Entertainment .....                       | 10          |
| (4) Licensed Premises .....                             | 17          |
| (5) Cafes and Canteens .....                            | —           |
| (6) Non-agricultural land .....                         | 250         |
| Agricultural (1) Market Gardens and Farms .....         | 53          |
| Properties (2) Piggeries .....                          | 8           |
| (3) Agricultural Land .....                             | 37          |
| Other Authority (1) Schools .....                       | 382         |
| Properties (2) Hospitals .....                          | 205         |
|   | <u>3988</u> |
| No. of Estimates provided .....                         | 95          |
| No. of Contracts signed .....                           | 87          |
| Value of Contracts signed .....                         | £235,9/6    |

## FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955—FOOD HYGIENE

As in previous years I am pleased to be able to report the continued improvement in standards of cleanliness, equipment and construction of food premises in the Borough. This has been possible due to the close co-operation between occupiers of food premises and the public health inspectors. It is encouraging to report that in the majority of cases advice given by inspectors on the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960, and food handling techniques was willingly acted upon by the various owners and managements. The smaller establishments, mainly through lack of management, do tend to require more supervision and it is then that notices have to be served to prevent deterioration of standards.

The interest shown by the public in notifying this Department of offences against the Food and Drugs Act and Food Hygiene Regulations, and their willingness to attend the Magistrates' Court if required, was most noticeable during the year.

The following premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act:—

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| For the Sale and Storage of Ice Cream                               | 177 |
| Manufacture of Sausages and Cooked Meat                             | 73  |
| Registration of Hawkers under the Cheshire County Council Act, 1953 | 32* |

\*This shows an increase of three over the previous year. The vehicles used serve mainly the Mill Park Estate and rural areas of the Borough.

The standards of cleanliness and equipment were on inspection found to be good.

During the year 1,015 visits and revisits were made to food premises, and listed below are the improvements resulting from these visits:—

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Premises provided with constant supply of hot water                          | 18 |
| "    "    "    fixed wash-hand basins  | 18 |
| "    "    "    sinks   | 6  |
| Premises redecorated (walls)   | 36 |
| "    "    (ceilings)   | 31 |
| "    "    (doors)  | 5  |
| "    "    (windows)  | 4  |
| Premises repaired (walls)  | 5  |
| "    "    (ceilings)   | 4  |
| "    "    (floors)   | 8  |
| Premises in which counter screens have been erected to prevent contamination | 3  |
| Premises where tables have been provided with impervious tops                | 10 |
| Premises provided with accommodation for outdoor clothing                    | 2  |
| Premises provided with new drainer boards to sinks                           | 2  |
| Premises where equipment was cleansed  | 6  |

### Meat Inspection

A 100 per cent. inspection of all carcasses and organs has once again been maintained during the year under review. This was



achieved by the inspectors working a considerable amount of overtime mainly at week-ends.

The incidence of T.B. shows a further decrease as compared to last year, though there was a slight increase of T.B. in pigs.

During the year inspections under the Slaughterhouse Act, 1958, and the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958, were made of the three slaughterhouses in the Borough, namely The Riverside Meat Co. Ltd., Hr. Bebington, S. Edge & Son, New Ferry and Penny & Sons, Lr. Bebington, to ascertain the requirements needed to bring these slaughterhouses up to standard for submission to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The owners of the properties in question were notified of the works required and as a result Penny & Sons relinquished their licence. The necessary reports were forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the Council fixed the date of 1st July, 1961, when the two slaughterhouses must comply with the Regulations. Confirmation of the report is awaited from the Ministry.

Particulars of slaughtering at the two private Slaughterhouses S. Edge & Son, New Ferry, and the Riverside Meat Co., Hr. Bebington, are given below:—

**TABLE XII NEW FERRY**

|   | Cattle<br>Excluding<br>Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs | Total  |
|---|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|--------|
| Number killed ....  | 96                          | —    | 9      | 773                   | —    | 878    |
| Ante-mortem inspection including supervision of humane slaughter .... | 96                          | —    | 9      | 773                   | —    | 878    |
| Notice of Slaughter rec'd   | 96                          | —    | 9      | 773                   | —    | 878    |
| Emergency notifications ....  | —                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| Post-mortem inspection ....   | 96                          | —    | 9      | 773                   | —    | 878    |
| <b>Tuberculosis only</b>  |                             |      |        |                       |      |        |
| Whole carcasses condemned ....  | —                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ....              | 2                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| Percentage of the number affected                                     | 2.08%                       | —    | —      | —                     | —    | 0.22%  |
| <b>All diseases except Tuberculosis</b>                               |                             |      |        |                       |      |        |
| Whole carcasses condemned   | —                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned                   | 34                          | —    | —      | 102                   | —    | 136    |
| Percentage affected   | 35.4%                       | —    | —      | 13.19%                | —    | 15.48% |



## HR. BEBINGTON

|   | Cattle<br>Excluding<br>Cows | Cows   | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs  | Total |
|---|-----------------------------|--------|--------|-----------------------|-------|-------|
| Number killed ....  | 454                         | 330    | 910    | 6247                  | 2609  | 10650 |
| Ante-mortem in-<br>spection includ-<br>ing supervision<br>of humane<br>slaughter .... | 454                         | 330    | 910    | 6247                  | 2609  | 10650 |
| Notice of<br>Slaughter rec'd  | 454                         | 330    | 910    | 6247                  | 2609  | 10650 |
| Emergency notifi-<br>cations ....   | —                           | —      | —      | —                     | —     | —     |
| Post-mortem in-<br>spection ....  | 454                         | 330    | 910    | 6247                  | 2609  | 10650 |
| <b>Tuberculosis only</b>  |                             |        |        |                       |       |       |
| Whole carcasses<br>condemned ....   | —                           | —      | —      | —                     | 1     | 1     |
| Carcasses of which<br>some part or<br>organ was con-<br>demned ....                   | 4                           | 26     | —      | —                     | 61    | 91    |
| Percentage of the<br>number affected  | 0.88%                       | 7.87%  | —      | —                     | 2.37% | 0.86% |
| <b>All diseases except Tuberculosis</b>   |                             |        |        |                       |       |       |
| Whole carcasses<br>condemned ....   | —                           | —      | 1      | 18                    | 1     | 20    |
| Carcasses of which<br>some part or<br>organ was con-<br>demned ....                   | 329                         | 196    | 8      | 1438                  | 375   | 2346  |
| Percentage of the<br>number affected  | 72.46%                      | 59.39% | 0.98%  | 23.3%                 | 14.4% | 22.2% |

## Other Condemned Food

TABLE XIII

The following table indicates the amount of tinned and bottled goods found to be unsound during visits to canteens, warehouses and shops. The condemned goods were collected by the Department and disposed of in the Corporation Tip under the supervision of the inspectors:—

|                       |                                   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 655 tins of Meat      | 11 pkts. of Frozen Vegetables     |
| 79 tins of Fruit      | 1 pkt. of Frozen Fruit            |
| 38 tins of Soup       | 175 pkts of Crisps                |
| 12 tins of Milk       | 1 pkt. of Chocolate Dessert       |
| 11 tins of Tomatoes   | 2 pkts. of Frozen Cod Fillets     |
| 18 tins of Vegetables | 7 pkts. of Frozen Brussel Sprouts |
| 16 tins of Fish       | 1 pkt. of Frozen Fish Sticks      |
| 26 tins of Rice       | 1 pkt. of Frozen Raspberries      |

|                            |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 tin of Cream             | 2 pkts. of Frozen Blackberries        |
| 2 tins of Chicken          | 3 pkts. of Frozen Cheese Shrimps      |
| 1 tin of Treacle           | 1 pkt. of Frozen Cheese and Lobster   |
| 12 tins of Evaporated Milk | 2 pkts. of Frozen Sliced Braised Beef |
| 74 pkts. of Frozen Mousse  | 1 pkt. of Frozen Chicken (Sliced)     |
| 30 pkts. of Frozen Fish    | 3 pkts. of Frozen Piccalilli Cheese   |
| 30 pkts. of Puff Pastry    | 3 pkts. of Frozen Cheese and          |
| 19 pkts. of Frozen Meat    | Cucumber                              |
| 1 Block of Ice Cream       | 1 pkt. of Frozen Veal and Ham         |
| 23 pkts. of Ice Cream      | 62 pkts. Fruit and Vegetables         |
| 34 pkts. of Cream Mousse   | 1 pkt. of Cakes                       |

### Disposal of Unsound Food

Meat and offal from the Slaughterhouse is stained with a vegetable dye, under the supervision of the meat inspector, and is removed by the collectors in a locked van.

Small quantities of meat or food from retail shops are dealt with by incineration.

### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS 1949

### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS 1949

The number of licences issued under the above Regulations during 1960 is as follows:—

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Tuberculin Tested Milk: | 30 Dealers<br>16 Supplementary Dealers |
| Pasteurised Milk:       | 45 Dealers<br>15 Supplementary Dealers |
| Sterilised Milk:        | 22 Dealers<br>10 Supplementary Dealers |

### SAMPLING OF MILK FOR BIOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS

TABLE XIV

#### Tests for Tuberculosis Milk

The following table gives information concerning the sampling of milk for Biological Tests for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli

| Source                                    | Designation       | No. of<br>Samples | Satisfactory | Not<br>satisfactory |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Shops, Dairies<br>and Vending<br>Machines | Tuberculin Tested | 12                | 12           | —                   |
| Roundsmen                                 | Tuberculin Tested | 6                 | 6            | —                   |

**TABLE XV****Tests for Keeping Quality**

Information concerning the testing of milk for good keeping quality by means of the Methylene Blue Test.

| Source         | Designation       | No. of Samples | Satisfactory | Not satisfactory |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| <hr/>          |                   |                |              |                  |
| Shops, Dairies |                   |                |              |                  |
| Schools and    |                   |                |              |                  |
| Vending        |                   |                |              |                  |
| Machines       | Tuberculin Tested | 12             | 12           | —                |
| ditto          | Pasteurised       | 13             | 12           | 1                |
| Roundsmen      | Tuberculin Tested | 6              | 6            | —                |
| ditto          | Pasteurised       | 8              | 8            | —                |

With respect to the sample of Pasteurised Milk failing the Methylene Blue test, a report was sent to the Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for his attention.

**Tests for adequate Pasteurisation or Sterilisation****TABLE XVI**

The following table shows details of Phosphatase and Turbidity tests for efficient pasteurisation and sterilisation of milk:—

| Source          | Designation | No. of Samples | Satisfactory | Not Satisfactory |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|
| <hr/>           |             |                |              |                  |
| Shops, Dairies, |             |                |              |                  |
| Vending         |             |                |              |                  |
| Machines and    |             |                |              |                  |
| Schools         | Pasteurised | 13             | 12           | 1                |
| ditto           | Sterilised  | 5              | 5            | —                |
| Roundsmen       | Pasteurised | 8              | 8            | —                |
| ditto           | Sterilised  | 6              | 6            | —                |

The sample of milk failing the phosphatase test for efficient pasteurisation was taken from a vending machine, and was in fact a raw T.T. Milk improperly designated "Pasteurised" on the carton. The attention of the producer/retailer was drawn to this contravention and the designation was suitably amended.

**BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE CREAM**

During the year a total of 37 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for bacteriological examination by means of the Methylene blue test.

Grade 1 ... 36 samples (satisfactory)  
 Grade 4 ... 1 „ (unsatisfactory)

The premises of the retailer of the unsatisfactory sample were inspected, and the retailer advised on use of suitable steriliser for serving instruments.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOODSTUFFS IN GENERAL

During 1960, 61 samples of miscellaneous foods were taken and submitted for bacteriological routine examination, and of these 23 per cent were manufactured locally.

| Sample                  | Number Taken | Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Meat Pie                | 7            | 4            | 3              |
| Cream Cake              | 8            | 5            | 3              |
| Vienna Steak            | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Pork Sausage Meat       | 2            | 1            | 1              |
| Sausage Roll            | 3            | 2            | 1              |
| Corned Beef/Tinned      | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Corned Beef/Ex Tin      | 1            | —            | 1              |
| Brawn                   | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Desicated Coconut       | 9            | 9            | —              |
| Custard Tart            | 4            | 2            | 2              |
| Meat and Potato Pie     | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Peeled Tomatoes         | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Mussels in Vinegar      | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Mussels in Brine        | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Cockles in Vinegar      | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Minced Beef             | 1            | —            | 1              |
| Black Pudding           | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Pork Pie                | 2            | 2            | —              |
| Cockles                 | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Faggots                 | 2            | —            | 2              |
| Cream Bun               | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Turkey and Tongue Paste | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Coconut Biscuit         | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Fresh Cream Cake        | 1            | —            | 1              |
| Drinking Chocolate      | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Oxtail Soup             | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Fresh Coffee            | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Draught Beer            | 3            | 3            | —              |
| Dripping                | 1            | 1            | —              |
| Smoked Oysters          | 1            | 1            | —              |
|                         | —            | —            | —              |
|                         | 61           | 46           | 15             |
|                         | —            | —            | —              |

In the cases of unsatisfactory samples, laboratory examination results invariably showed bacterial contamination of a non-specific nature not associated with food poisoning organisms. It is noticeable that the unsatisfactory samples involved open foodstuffs, some of a susceptible nature, the prepacked types were declared satisfactory.

Some degree of improper food storage and handling was apparently indicated, and in all cases the retailer's premises were inspected and the staff were advised on good food handling practice.

The following table refers to specimens and samples taken in connection with suspected food poisoning and associated cases.

**TABLE XVII**

| Type   | No. Taken                     | Result   |
|--|-------------------------------|--|
| Faeces   | 488                           | { 444 Negative<br>33 Shigella Sonne<br>6 Staphylococcus Aureus<br>4 B Coli 0127<br>1 Heat Resistant<br>Clostridium Welchii } |
| * { Trifles<br>Assorted Cream<br>Cakes, Assorted<br>Ice Cakes<br>Ham Sandwiches<br>Ham and Tongue<br>Jellies and Cream | 2<br><br><br><br>2<br>2       | { Growths of<br>Staphylococcus<br>Aureus<br>isolated }   |
|  |                               | Other organisms of non-specific nature   |
| *Associated with Victoria Hall Food Poisoning outbreak.  |                               |  |
| Cheese   | 1                             | Negative   |
| Corned Beef  | 7 (2 opened)<br>(5 un-opened) | { Staphylococcus Aureus<br>isolated (opened tins) }<br>Negative (un-opened tins)   |

### PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are two public swimming baths in the Borough, one at Shorefields, New Ferry adjoining the River and owned by the Corporation, and the other a private swimming bath where the public are admitted and situated in Port Sunlight, owned by Lever Brothers.

The New Ferry bath is of open air type, 110 yards x 30 yards with a million gallon capacity. The source of water is by mains supply from the West Cheshire Water Board. Treatment is by continuous circulation, filtration through rapid gravity sand filters, and chlorination with a 12 hourly water change-over.

The swimming bath at Port Sunlight is also open air type, circular in shape, 30 yards across with a capacity for 165,000 gallons. The water is supplied from wells in Lever Brothers Factory. Here it is steam heated and pumped direct to the bath. There is continuous circulation and chlorination and sediment filtration, and the water has a change-over every twelve hours. The bath is emptied regularly once a week and scrubbed down.

**TABLE XVIII**  
**SWIMMING BATH WATER**

#### Bacteriological Sampling

During the open season, 14 samples were taken from New Ferry and Port Sunlight Baths and submitted for bacteriological reports.

|                     | Number Taken | Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| New Ferry Baths     | 6            | 6            | —              |
| Port Sunlight Baths | 8            | 8            | —              |



## BACTERIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF TAP WATER

### Bacteriological Examination

During 1960, a total of 10 tap water samples were taken, and all were reported satisfactory.

### Chemical Analysis

7 samples of tap water, including 1 bag filter, were taken and sent for analysis. 4 of these were declared satisfactory, whilst 3 were reported cloudy and turbid due to finely insoluble matter, but in other respects the quality of the waters was satisfactory.

## FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

### Nature, Substance and Quality

**TABLE XIX**

The following shows the number and type of foods purchased by the Inspectors and analysed by the Public Analyst.

| Article                           | No. of samples<br>of each<br>article examined |          |       | No. of Samples of<br>each article regarded<br>as adulterated |          |       |
|-----------------------------------|---|----------|-------|--|----------|-------|
|                                   | Formal  | Informal | Total | Formal   | Informal | Total |
| Almonds (Ground) ....             | —   | 2        | 2     | —  | —        | —     |
| Batter Mix ....                   | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Beef Curry ....                   | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Butter ....                       | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Blackcurrant Health Drink ....    | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Cabbage (Red Pickled) ....        | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Castor Oil ....                   | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Cheese Spread (Buttered) ....     | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Chicken (Boned, Tinned) ....      | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Cockles ....                      | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Coconut (Desiccated) ....         | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Coffee Essence ....               | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Coffee (Fresh White) ....         | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Coffee (Instant) ....             | 1   | 5        | 6     | 1  | 1        | 2     |
| Colouring (Food) ....             | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Confectionery (Cakes, etc.) ....  | —   | 2        | 2     | —  | —        | —     |
| Confectionery (Sweets, etc.) .... | —   | 2        | 2     | —  | —        | —     |
| Corn Oil ....                     | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Crab (Minced) in Jelly ....       | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Cream (Pure Dairy) ....           | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Curry (Beef) ....                 | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Farola ....                       | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Figs (Compound Syrup of) ....     | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Fruit Cocktail ....               | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Gelatine ....                     | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Ginger (Ground) ....              | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Ginger in Syrup ....              | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Gravy Mix ....                    | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Guavas ....                       | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Jelly (Table) ....                | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |

| Article                                  | No. of Samples<br>of each<br>article examined |          |       | No. of Samples of<br>each article regarded<br>as adulterated |          |       |
|--|---|----------|-------|--|----------|-------|
|  | Formal  | Informal | Total | Formal   | Informal | Total |
| Kraft Dinner                             | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Lard                                     | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Lemon Curd                               | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Lemon Juice                              | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Lung Tonic                               | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Meat Paste (Chicken)                     | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Milk                                     | —   | 69       | 69    | —  | —        | —     |
| Onions (Pickled)                         | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Onions (Sliced)                          | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Pate de Foie                             | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Pectin (Fruit)                           | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Pepper (White)                           | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Pie (Steak and Kidney)                   | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Pudding (Rice)                           | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Raisins                                  | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Rice Creamola                            | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Sauce (Chop)                             | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Sauce (Horseradish)                      | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Sausage (Frankfurter)                    | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Sausage (Tinned)                         | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Sausage (Tomato)                         | 1   | 1        | 2     | 1  | 1        | 2     |
| Savoury (Sandwich)                       | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Scampi Curry                             | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Seasoning (Maggi)                        | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Soft Drinks                              | —   | 3        | 3     | —  | —        | —     |
| Soup                                     | —   | 2        | 2     | —  | —        | —     |
| Soup (Clear Chicken)                     | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Sugar (Demerara)                         | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Tomato Ketchup                           | —   | 3        | 3     | —  | —        | —     |
| Trifle (Dairy Cream)                     | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Vegetable Juices (V.8)                   | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| Yorkshire Pudding and Pancake<br>Mixture | —   | 1        | 1     | —  | —        | —     |
| TOTALS                                   | 2   | 142      | 144   | 2  | 2        | 4     |

|   | Milk Fat | Non Fatty<br>Solids | Water  |
|---|----------|---------------------|--------|
| Milk Average for the year               | 3.64%    | 8.83%               | 87.53% |
| Legal minimum standard                  | 3.0%     | 8.5%                | —      |
| Channel Island Milk Average<br>for year | 5.04%    | 9.34%               | 85.62% |
| Legal minimum standards                 | 4.00%    | 8.50%               | —      |

## Details of Samples Adulterated or Below Standard:

| Sample<br>No. | Article        | Formal or<br>Informal | Nature of Adulteration   | Action Taken  |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| 1             | Instant Coffee | Informal              | Dried Coffee Extract contain-<br>ing sulphur dioxide preserva-<br>tive | The sample tak-<br>en was import-<br>ed. Whole-<br>salers notified<br>and in contact<br>with manufact-<br>urers |

| Sample No. | Article        | Formal or Informal | Nature of Adulteration   | Action Taken  |
|------------|----------------|--------------------|--|---|
| 2          | Instant Coffee | Formal             | Instant Coffee containing SO <sub>2</sub> preservative   | All stocks withdrawn SO <sub>2</sub> found in coffee was caused through the drying process with oil fired burners using oil with a high sulphur content. Changing over to gas fired heating |
| 3          | Tomato Sausage | Informal           | Tomato sausage containing SO <sub>2</sub> preservative, the presence of which was not declared | Further sample to be taken  |
| 4          | Tomato Sausage | Formal             | Tomato sausage containing SO <sub>2</sub> preservative, the presence of which was not declared | Retailer warned<br>Notice now displayed declaring presence of the authorised preservative   |

### Action taken under the Food and Drugs Act and Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

|     |   |       |                       |
|-----|---|-------|-----------------------|
| 1.  | Foreign matter in Cake                      | ..... | Baker warned          |
| 2.  | Foreign matter in Custard Pie               | ..... | Confectioner warned   |
| 3.  | Weavils in Cornflakes                       | ..... | Manufacturers warned  |
| 4.  | Foreign body in Meat Pie                    | ..... | Manufacturers warned  |
| 5.  | Foreign bodies in 3 bottles of Orange Juice | ..... | Wholesalers fined £50 |
| 6.  | Foreign body in bottle of School Milk       | ..... | Wholesalers fined £50 |
| 7.  | Foreign matter in bottle of Orange Juice    | ..... | Wholesalers fined £50 |
| 8.  | Dirty bottle of School Milk                 | ..... | Wholesalers fined £20 |
| 9.  | Dirty bottle of School Milk                 | ..... | Wholesalers fined £20 |
| 10. | Dirty bottle of School Milk                 | ..... | Wholesalers fined £20 |
| 11. | Dirty bottle of School Milk                 | ..... | Wholesalers fined £20 |

### HEATING APPARATUS (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952

No offences under this Act have been observed and no complaints received.

## SHOPS ACT, 1950 YOUNG PERSONS EMPLOYMENT ACT, 1938

The Chief Public Health Inspector who is Chief Inspector under the above mentioned Acts, reports as follows:—

### Administration

This concerns (a) hours of employment of young persons, (b) facilities for meals, (c) provision of seats for female assistants, (d) hours of closing, Sunday Trading, and (e) provision and maintenance of sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, light, ventilation and temperature.

A total of 617 visits were made during normal working hours apart from those made during the evenings and on Sundays.

Generally speaking the Acts were observed and co-operation of the trade was real. The few regular offenders were kept under special observation. There are still a few shopkeepers who fail to realise their obligations in regard to maintaining a suitable temperature for their staffs and keep to a fixed date before allowing winter heating to be provided.

### Offences Committed

|  |      |      |      |   |
|--|------|------|------|---|
| Half Holiday Notices not exhibited       | .... | .... | .... | 8 |
| Seats not provided for female assistants | .... | .... | .... | 9 |

### Shops Open Illegally

|                          |      |      |      |      |    |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|----|
| (a) After hours—evening  | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3  |
| (b) After hours—half day | .... | .... | .... | .... | 13 |
| (c) Sunday Trading       | .... | .... | .... | .... | 8  |

### Hours of Employment not Recorded

|                   |      |      |      |    |      |    |
|-------------------|------|------|------|----|------|----|
| (a) Young Persons | .... | .... | .... | .. | .... | 4  |
|                   |      |      |      |    |      | —  |
|                   |      |      |      |    |      | 45 |
|                   |      |      |      |    |      | —  |

# CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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## BEBINGTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DIVISIONAL  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
(F. S. MELVILLE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)

FOR THE YEAR

1960

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Divisional Health Office,  
Town Hall,  
BEBINGTON.  
Cheshire.  
13th April. 1961



# CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## BEBINGTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

### Representing Bebington Borough Council

*Chairman:* Councillor Mrs. E. WILLIAMS

*Deputy Chairman:* Councillor Mrs. B. E. GILL, J.P.

#### Aldermen:

H. P. LONG  
H. SMITH  
R. WILLIAMS

#### Councillors:

R. EVANS  
H. GARNER  
G. E. GLOVER  
Mrs. H. G. HEBRON  
MRS. M. LEECE  
Mrs. S. PRICE  
W. WEDGEWOOD

### Representing Cheshire County Council

County Alderman Miss B. E. WILSON, J.P.

County Councillor G. BEARDSWORTH, O.B.E., J.P.

County Councillor T. JONES-OWEN

### Ex Officio Members

County Alderman G. ASTBURY, J.P.

County Alderman F. McBIRNIE

### Representative Members and Nominating Bodies

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| J. H. WILLIAMS, Esq. | Bebington Divisional Executive for Education.      |
| Dr. B. CARRUTHERS    | County Palatine of Chester Local Medical Committee |
| A. F. DRAKE, Esq.    | County Palatine of Chester Local Dental Committee  |
| J. J. BROWN, ESQ.    | Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee       |

Mrs. A. M. FITZPATRICK

Mrs. V. LAMB

A. J. RUSHTON, Esq. (Died 6th May, 1960)

H. SPEED, Esq.

A. L. RADCLIFFE, Esq. (From 14th July, 1960)

## DIVISIONAL AND COUNTY STAFF

|  |      |  |
|--|------|--|
| <i>Divisional Medical Officer<br/>and School Medical Officer</i> |      | F. S. Melville, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  |
| <i>Clerk to the Divisional<br/>Health Committee</i>              | .... | G. Chappell, O.B.E., LL.B.   |
| <i>Assistant County Medical<br/>Officers</i>                     | .... | Jessie Tough, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.<br>R. A. Blyth, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., (To 31.8.60)<br>M. V. Jukes (From 5.9.60)   |
| <i>Dental Surgeons</i>   | .... | Mrs. B. Petrie, L.D.S.<br>M. K. Baron, L.D.S. (From 1.3.60)  |
| <i>Chief Clerk</i>   | .... | W. R. Turner   |
| <i>Clerical Staff</i>  | .... | Mrs. E. Bieniek    Mrs. P. W. Jones<br>Miss N. Mackey    Miss H. Stanley<br>Mrs. A. V. Rowlands (To 9.1.60)<br>Mrs. E. Davies (From 1.2.60)<br>Temporary    Mrs. D. Jacks  |
| <i>Health Visitors</i>   | .... | Mrs. E. Symes (Retired 31.3.60)<br>Miss E. Nicholson    Miss R. Abraham<br>Miss E. M. Wright    Miss B. Shepherd<br>Mrs. M. G. Garratt (To 4.6.60)<br>Mrs. M. F. Cordon    Miss D. Stamper<br>Miss D. Cadogan (From 2.5.60)<br>Mrs. J. O. Pace (From 1.6.60) |
| <i>Home Nurses</i>   | .... | Miss M. G. Griffiths    Miss F. Baughan<br>Mrs. M. R. Heatley    Mrs. A. Thompson<br>Mrs. F. E. Harrison    Mrs. A. Holesak<br>E. Cochrane (From 18.4.60)  |
| <i>Midwives</i>  | .... | Mrs. C. R. Green    Mrs. A. Harwood<br>Mrs. D. Okell (To 30.9.60)<br>Mrs. D. Clarke (From 1.4.60)  |
| <i>Senior Mental Welfare<br/>Officer</i>                         | .... | E. M. Harborow   |
| <i>Mental Welfare Officers</i>                                   | .... | Mrs. C. Ledsome    E. S. Hughes (Trainee)  |
| <i>Matron, Day Nursery<br/>(Bromborough)</i>                     | .... | Mrs. F. G. Davies, S.R.N.  |
| <i>Supervisor, Junior Training<br/>Centre (New Ferry)</i>        | .... | Miss I. J. Young   |
| <i>Ambulance Supervisor</i>                                      | .... | E. Jones   |
| <i>Physiotherapist</i>   | .... | Mrs. B. Murray   |
| <i>Speech Therapist</i>  | .... | Miss K. E. Jones, L.C.S.T.   |

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## CLINIC SPECIALISTS (PART-TIME)

|                            |      |  |
|----------------------------|------|--|
| <i>Chest Physician</i>     | .... | D. W. C. Tough, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.      |
| <i>Gynaecologist</i>       | .... | M. M. Datnow, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G. |
| <i>Orthopaedic Surgeon</i> | .... | G. A. Wetherell, M.Ch., Orth., F.R.C.S.  |
| <i>Ophthalmic Surgeon</i>  | .... | P. J. Devlin, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.      |
| <i>Paediatrician</i>       | .... | K. R. Llewellyn, M.R.C.P., D.C.H.        |

## TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BEBINGTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

*Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report for 1960.*

*During this time I am happy to say there have been no major upheavals in the department or amongst the staff so that the work has gone on steadily and smoothly.*

*The biggest changes in local health authority work have occurred in the mental health field following the passing of the Mental Health Act, 1959. Whilst this aspect of the work is not administered locally, prevention of illness is, or should be, the main functions of a health department. As it is estimated that some 50 per cent. of illness is mental in origin, obviously active preventive and educative measures should be taken by all the staff and much of the work of the doctors and health visitors at the clinics and on their rounds is to do with mental health.*

*Not unconnected with mental health is much of the work done under the appropriate sections of the National Health Service and National Assistance Acts, dealing with care and after-care. The provision of aids for the handicapped, adaptations in and out of their homes, meals on wheels and so on, whilst ostensibly providing for their physical well being go very far to helping them mentally also. In this connection the impression gained by the staff and voluntary helpers at the Handicapped Persons Club is that the members of it have shown considerable improvement in their outlook since joining the club. It is gratifying to see the keenness shown by the members and thanks to the generous offer of help to transport them from the W.V.S. using their new "meals on wheels" van and the continuing support of a small band of very willing car drivers who give their time and vehicles unstintingly it has been possible at the end of the year to arrange for this club to be held weekly instead of fortnightly.*

*The day nursery has been used more extensively than for some years. An innovation has been the admission of a mentally handicapped child to help make him more independent. As an interim measure this has much to recommend it but it is hoped that such children will be admitted to a creche at the new junior training centre when it is opened.*

*Unfortunately a private nursery school held in the borough has closed as the building was no longer available. Whilst the total number of young children this school could take was small it was in some measure filling a need and it is much to be regretted that there is no provision of nursery schools in the area by the local authority. Nursery schools can give much to the child from three years of age to six or seven, especially the only child.*

*In the immunisation and vaccination field the work has progressed very satisfactorily and thanks to the enthusiasm of both the local health authority staff and the general practitioners in the area the percentage of babies and children protected is very high and must compare favourably with any other area in the country.*

*A very welcome and successful innovation in April was the appointment of a male district nurse who assumed responsibility for the nursing of all the male patients in the borough.*

*In conclusion I would like to thank all the members of the divisional staff, professional and clerical, the County Medical Officer and all his staff, the general practitioners in the area and those members of the staff of Clatterbridge with whom I have had contact, the County Children's Department and County Welfare Department for all the help they have given me during the year and finally but not least to thank the Chairman and members of the Divisional Health Committee for their continued interest and help.*

F. S. MELVILLE,

*Divisional Medical Officer*

Town Hall,  
BEBINGTON.  
13th April, 1961

## NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTERED AND MANAGED BY THE  
DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
THE TERMS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S DIVISIONAL HEALTH  
ADMINISTRATION SCHEME, 1948

### Section 22—Care of Mothers and Young Children

#### (i) Day Nursery

The average daily attendance was 27.1. This is a very considerable and satisfactory improvement. About the same number as the previous year were priority cases.

**TABLE I**  
**AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCES**

| Year | New Ferry | Bromborough |
|------|-----------|-------------|
| 1949 | 34.5      | 26.1        |
| 1950 | 32.9      | 27.7        |
| 1951 | 32.2      | 25.1        |
| 1952 | 29.5      | 23.1        |
| 1953 | Closed    | 21.3        |
| 1954 |           | 24.7        |
| 1955 |           | 21.2        |
| 1956 |           | 23.5        |
| 1957 |           | 21.8        |
| 1958 |           | 23.6        |
| 1959 |           | 19.8        |
| 1960 |           | 27.1        |

Table II illustrates that throughout the course of the year about one third of the cases attending were necessitous.

**TABLE II**

| MONTH     | Total children on Register | No. of priority cases | TYPE OF PRIORITY CASE |                       |       |         |                    |                           |                   |
|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------|---------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
|           |                            |                       | Illegitimate child    | Separation of Parents | Widow | Widower | Mother in Hospital | Illness at home of mother | Illness of father |
| January   | 23                         | 8                     | 4                     | 1                     | 2     | —       | —                  | —                         | 1                 |
| February  | 23                         | 9                     | 4                     | 2                     | 1     | —       | 1                  | —                         | 1                 |
| March     | 26                         | 8                     | 4                     | 2                     | —     | —       | —                  | 1                         | 1                 |
| April     | 28                         | 6                     | 4                     | 2                     | —     | —       | —                  | —                         | —                 |
| May       | 28                         | 8                     | 4                     | 2                     | —     | 1       | —                  | 1                         | —                 |
| June      | 35                         | 10                    | 4                     | 2                     | —     | 1       | 1                  | 1                         | 1                 |
| July      | 33                         | 9                     | 3                     | 2                     | 1     | 1       | —                  | 2                         | —                 |
| August    | 35                         | 13                    | 3                     | 5                     | 1     | 1       | —                  | 2                         | 1                 |
| September | 40                         | 14                    | 3                     | 7                     | 1     | 1       | —                  | 1                         | 1                 |
| October   | 40                         | 15                    | 3                     | 7                     | 1     | 1       | —                  | 1                         | 1                 |
| November  | 38                         | 13                    | 3                     | 5                     | 1     | 1       | —                  | 2                         | —                 |
| December  | 35                         | 13                    | 3                     | 5                     | 1     | 1       | 1                  | 1                         | —                 |

Table III shows attendances made during the year:—

**TABLE III**

|                          |      |      |      |      | 0—2 years | 2—5 years | Total |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| January                  | .... | .... | .... | .... | 34        | 313       | 347   |
| February                 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 69        | 396       | 465   |
| March                    | .... | .... | .... | .... | 84        | 455       | 539   |
| April                    | .... | .... | .... | .... | 17        | 212       | 229   |
| May                      | .... | .... | .... | .... | 53        | 449       | 502   |
| June                     | .... | .... | .... | .... | 74        | 571       | 645   |
| July                     | .... | .... | .... | .... | 61        | 569       | 630   |
| August                   | .... | .... | .... | .... | 71        | 349       | 420   |
| September                | .... | .... | .... | .... | 142       | 670       | 812   |
| October                  | .... | .... | .... | .... | 127       | 605       | 732   |
| November                 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 128       | 593       | 721   |
| December                 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 103       | 549       | 652   |
|                          |      |      |      |      | 963       | 5731      | 6694  |
| Average daily attendance |      |      |      |      | 3.9       | 23.2      | 27.1  |

## (ii) Mothers' Clinics

### (a) Ante-Natal and Post-Natal

Combined ante-natal and post-natal clinics are held at the New Ferry Welfare Centre on Monday and Friday



mornings where the mothers are examined by the consultant obstetrician and where advice and education on maternity and infant care is given by the health visitors.

**TABLE IV**

|                              | Sessions |      | New Cases |      | Total Attendances |
|------------------------------|----------|------|-----------|------|-------------------|
| Ante-Natal }<br>Post-Natal } | 98       | .... | 98        | .... | 521               |
|                              |          | .... | 1         | .... | 25                |

(b) **Preparation Class**

This clinic, started in 1958, continued to run successfully every Thursday afternoon at New Ferry Welfare Centre and has been very well attended. It is run by a Health Visitor and a Physiotherapist. Ideally the midwives should also be in attendance but unfortunately they do not have the time at present to get there very often.

Talks and demonstrations to these mothers have included the following subjects, objects of Preparation and Relaxation Classes, preparation of the mind, anatomy, mechanism of labour, diet, good nutrition, vitamins, general hygiene, care of breasts, clothing, teeth, feet, varicose veins, exercise, simple ailments, Rh factor, breast feeding, artificial feeding, types of feeding, bottles, teats, equipment, sterilisation, bathing baby, washing nappies and baby clothes, gas and air, suitable clothing for mother and baby.

In my opinion this class is showing very gratifying results. Opinions of doctors vary about the benefits accruing to the mothers at their parturition, although the mothers themselves are almost unanimous in their opinion that it has helped, but there are no doubts in anyone's mind about the value to the mother in the confidence she gains and the increase in good care that she gives to the newly born baby.

Table V gives the attendances made during the year—

**TABLE V**

|                   | Sessions |      | New Cases |      | Total Attendances |
|-------------------|----------|------|-----------|------|-------------------|
| Preparation Class | 50       | .... | 88        | .... | 583               |

(iii) **Infant Welfare Clinics**

There is one ad hoc clinic in the borough at New Ferry where an infant welfare clinic is held each Wednesday afternoon. In addition there are weekly infant welfare clinics held in rented premises at the Mayer Hall, Bebington; St. David's Presbyterian Church Hall, Eastham; Bromborough Council Offices; Victoria Hall, Higher Bebington. A

fortnightly clinic was held at the Women's Institute, Thornton Hough, but the numbers attending had fallen so low that it was decided to hold the clinic there monthly rather than fortnightly, from September, 1960.

During the year 8,907 attendances were made as compared to 8,674 in 1959 and 8,623 in 1958.

**TABLE VI**

Total attendances, new cases and numbers seen by the doctor at infant welfare clinics during 1960:—

|               | Attendances     |              | New Cases      |              | Number<br>seen by<br>doctor | Sessions |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|----------|
|               | Under<br>1 year | 1—5<br>years | Under<br>1 yr. | 1—5<br>years |                             |          |
| New Ferry     | 1494            | 93           | 138            | —            | 403                         | 51       |
| Eastham ....  | 1408            | 227          | 133            | 1            | 315                         | 48       |
| Hr. Bebington | 1812            | 105          | 124            | 5            | 842                         | 51       |
| Bromborough   | 1690            | 222          | 179            | 12           | 466                         | 51       |
| Lr. Bebington | 1530            | 194          | 129            | 2            | 413                         | 50       |
| T. Hough .... | 93              | 39           | 21             | —            | 62                          | 15       |
|               | 8027            | 880          | 724            | 20           | 2501                        | 266      |
|               | 8907            |              | 744            |              |                             |          |

#### (iv) Young Children's Clinics

A routine inspection of children yearly on or about their birthday is invaluable for the early detection of physical defects such as deafness, adenoids, squints, minor orthopaedic defects, feeding and sleeping difficulties, and is also invaluable for imparting such simple health education principles as home safety, nutrition, exercise and the various needs of the child before going to school. Such clinics are held once monthly at New Ferry Welfare Centre; St. David's Presbyterian Church Hall, Eastham; Bromborough Council Offices and Mayer Hall, Bebington.

Table VII gives the figures of attendance—

**TABLE VII**

| Clinic             | Sessions | Attendances |
|--------------------|----------|-------------|
| New Ferry ....     | 12       | 173         |
| Eastham ....       | 12       | 165         |
| Bromborough ....   | 11       | 103         |
| Lr. Bebington .... | 10       | 118         |

## (v) Special Clinics and Ancillary Services

### (a) Orthopaedic Clinic

The orthopaedic specialist has a consultative clinic fortnightly at New Ferry Welfare Centre. This is a combined clinic for pre-school and school children. During 1960 there were seventeen sessions when 410 attendances were made by children of all ages, 76 of whom were new cases. Corresponding figures for 1959 were sessions 20, attendances 486, new cases 111.

### (b) Physiotherapy

The physiotherapist attends two sessions per week at the New Ferry Welfare Centre for treatment of orthopaedic cases.

There were no physiotherapy clinics from the 1st September to the end of the year as Clatterbridge Hospital could not release a physiotherapist during that period.

**TABLE VIII**

|                        | 1960 | 1959 |
|------------------------|------|------|
| Sessions ....          | 25   | 68   |
| New Cases ....         | 7    | 46   |
| Total attendances .... | 94   | 300  |

### (c) "Sunlight"

Unfortunately the Physiotherapist who gave the sunlight treatment had to give up due to ill health and a successor could not be found so that there have been no "sunlight" clinics during the current winter of 1960-61.

**TABLE IX**

|                        | 1960 | 1959 |
|------------------------|------|------|
| Sessions ....          | 24   | 44   |
| New Cases ....         | 33   | 60   |
| Total attendances .... | 551  | 537  |

### (d) Ophthalmic Clinic

The ophthalmologist attends New Ferry Welfare Centre monthly to see children under 5 years of age reported to him.

During 1960 he saw 63 new cases and 205 attendances were made as compared with 41 new cases and 167 attendances in 1959.

### (e) Ear, Nose and Throat

No ear, nose and throat clinic is held in the local authority premises. Cases are referred directly to Clatterbridge Hospital.

(f) **Paediatric**

The Paediatrician from Clatterbridge Hospital holds a consultative session on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings of each month to see cases referred by the general practitioners and follow up cases seen originally in the hospital.

**TABLE X**

|                   |      |      | 1960 | 1959 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Sessions          | .... | .... | 21   | 23   |
| New Cases         | .... | .... | 13   | 29   |
| Total attendances | .... | .... | 131  | 210  |

(g) **Blood Investigations**

Arrangements were made in the latter part of the year with the consultant pathologist to have a laboratory technician in attendance once a month at New Ferry Welfare Centre to investigate young children and mothers referred by the Paediatrician or Obstetrician mainly for blood counts and haemoglobin estimations. This saves the patients a special journey to the hospital and should mean a considerable saving in time for them.

(h) **Hearing Clinics for Young Children**

Most of the Health Visitors have now had training in the techniques for detecting deafness in very young children and now hold regular sessions where these children are tested by appointment.

There is an optimum time at which the normal child should begin to talk and if because of deafness of any type he or she cannot appreciate the spoken word and efforts are not made to overcome the deafness and train the speech as soon as possible no subsequent intensive training can compensate so that whilst the total number of deaf children discovered is very small the early detection of deafness is vital.

**TABLE XI**

|                          | New Cases |       |     | Re-Tests |      |     | Defective |     |     |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------|-----|----------|------|-----|-----------|-----|-----|
|                          | 0-1       | 1-2   | 2-5 | 0-1      | 1-2  | 2-5 | 0-1       | 1-2 | 2-5 |
| New Ferry Welfare Centre | 131       | 122   | 218 | 6        | 3    | 5   | 2         | 1   | 5   |
|                          |           | (471) |     |          | (14) |     |           | (8) |     |
| Bromborough Clinic       | 71        | 49    | 53  | 2        | —    | 2   | —         | —   | 1   |
|                          |           | (173) |     |          | (4)  |     |           | (1) |     |
| Eastham Clinic           | 43        | 45    | 51  | 1        | —    | 2   | —         | —   | 1   |
|                          |           | (139) |     |          | (3)  |     |           | (1) |     |

Table XI gives some indication of the work done by the Health Visitors. It will be seen that ten of the children after testing and re-testing required to be referred further. Of these ten only two

appear to have suffered from any degree of true deafness, the remainder either required treatment for some other defect in the ear, nose and throat, such as tonsils, catarrh, adenoids, or were severely mentally handicapped.

#### (vi) **Branded Infant Foods**

The sale of branded infant foods at child welfare clinics during the year realised £2,398 as compared to £1,760 in 1959.

#### (vii) **Welfare Foods**

The arrangements made when these became the responsibility of the Local Health Authority during 1954 continued. New Ferry clinic is the main centre and is open for their sale each morning from Monday to Friday between 9 a.m. and 12 noon. In addition there is a clerk in attendance at Bromborough Council Offices on a Thursday morning and these foods are sold at all the infant welfare clinics including New Ferry Welfare Centre on a Wednesday afternoon.

During the year 1960 the following Welfare Foods were issued:—

|                       |                   | 1960   | 1959   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------|--------|
| National Dried Milk   | 20 oz. tin—2/4d.  | 12,917 | 15,813 |
| Cod Liver Oil         | 6 oz. bottle—free | 2,562  | 2,601  |
| Vitamin A & D Tablets | free              | 2,647  | 2,706  |
| Orange Juice          | 6 oz. bottle—5d.  | 24,394 | 26,535 |

### **SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY SERVICE**

The establishment of midwives for the area remained at four but once again unfortunately there were several changes. The Midwives attended 150 cases and this works out at an average of 38 each.

I am pleased to report that it has been possible to agree on a more rational procedure for mothers delivered in hospital. The responsibility for these mothers on discharge on the 9th day or after is assumed directly by the health visitor so avoiding the difficulties of having two persons within three or four days advising the mother and also means that the midwife does not have to try to see and understand a mother and small baby for a short period of three to four days.

The Preparation Classes already mentioned are helping considerably to bolster the mothers confidence in the difficult first two or three weeks.

Births notified to the borough during the year:—

|                           |      |            |
|---------------------------|------|------------|
| Domiciliary               | .... | 150        |
| Heathfield Maternity Home | .... | 390        |
| Clatterbridge Hospital    | .... | 300        |
| Outside the Borough       | .... | 79         |
| Total....                 |      | <u>919</u> |



## SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING

The establishment of health visitors for the division is eight and during the year this number has been employed.

Routine work in the ante-natal clinics, infant welfare and young children's clinics, specialists clinics in ophthalmology, paediatrics, orthopaedics, has continued as before. A health visitor continues to attend the Geriatric follow-up clinic at Clatterbridge Hospital each week.

In my opinion the ratio of one health visitor/school nurse to every 6,400 of the population is far too low, one to 4,000 would not be considered unreasonable and it would seem to me that with the ever increasing problems of the aged and mental health, in addition to all the other facets of the work, there is a reasonable argument for an increase in the health visiting staff.

Table XII illustrates just how widely the net is cast now in the health visitors work. Whilst by inclination and training the maternity and child welfare service gets pride of place in their work the social care of the whole family comes within their orbit.

**TABLE XII**

Work done by Health Visitors during 1960

|                               |                                  |      |      |      |      |      |       |               |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|---------------|
| <i>Visits</i>                 | Primary                          | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | ....  | 743           |
|                               | Revisits (Infants)               | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | ....  | 4085          |
|                               | 1—5 years                        | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | ....  | 6107          |
|                               | School children                  | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | ....  | 407           |
|                               | Ante-natal                       | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | ....  | 430           |
|                               | Tuberculosis                     | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | ....  | 487           |
|                               | Domestic Helps                   | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | ....  | 646           |
|                               | After-Care, Aged and Handicapped | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | ....  | 1513          |
|                               | Mental Health                    | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | ....  | 107           |
|                               | Special                          | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | ....  | 425           |
|                               |                                  |      |      |      |      |      | Total | <u>14,950</u> |
| <i>Attendances at Clinics</i> | ....                             | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | ....  | 642           |

## SECTION 25—HOME NURSING SERVICE

At the end of 1960 seven home nurses including a male nurse were serving residents in the Division who were considered by general practitioners to be in need of home nursing, and the relevant statistics for the year are shown in conjunction with the 1959 figures, which are given in brackets.

### New Cases in 1960

|                            |      |      |      |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|
| 540 (678)                  | .... | .... | .... |
| Cases referred to hospital | .... | .... | .... |
| Deaths                     | .... | .... | .... |

### Visits paid in 1960

|                 |
|-----------------|
| 17,196 (19,937) |
| 123 (147)       |
| 78 (69)         |

This service soldiers on quietly doing very good work which is largely unsung but the patients themselves and their family doctors know the true worth of these nurses. Whilst I have no desire to drag them into the office it seems a pity that they do not have a closer link with the remainder of the divisional set-up as I feel that they would welcome opportunities to discuss their cases with their colleagues in the other branches and at the same time other social problems not directly medical or nursing would come to light and further help could be given to their patients.

## SECTION 26—VACCINATION and IMMUNISATION

### (i) Vaccination against smallpox

617 children under five years of age were vaccinated during 1960. This in fact is 106 more than in 1958 when the outbreak of smallpox occurred and is an indication that parents realise the importance of this procedure and it is hoped this will long continue.

Although the neighbourhood of a port is likely to be more vulnerable to outbreaks than other areas, in this day of rapid travel no place is immune from the danger of some traveller arriving still in the incubation period of the disease, so that it is important that the whole population should be well vaccinated.

Much exhortation and education is done to encourage parents on this subject. It should be noted that the general practitioners have in fact vaccinated two thirds of the total number done and I would like to put on record my thanks to them for their interest and keenness in this preventive work.

**TABLE XIII**

#### Primary Vaccination (Smallpox)

|                                 | 0—5<br>years    | Over<br>5 years |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| General Practitioners .. .. .   | 423             | 17              |
| Local Authority Clinics .. .. . | 194             | —               |
|                                 | <hr/> 617 <hr/> | <hr/> 17 <hr/>  |

### (ii) Diphtheria Immunisation

Immunisation against diphtheria has continued throughout the year either alone, combined with whooping cough using the Glaxo Combined Diphtheria Pertussis Prophylactic or as Triple Antigen, that is, combined with whooping Cough vaccine and tetanus toxoid. 700 children under the age of five years were immunised against diphtheria in 1960 as compared to 640 in the previous year. It is not so simple a matter to state this as a percentage as these children are in a much wider age range than those vaccinated against smallpox but it is very satisfactory.

**TABLE XIV**

Number of children immunised against diphtheria according to year of birth and year of completion of immunisation

| Year of immunisation | Year of Birth |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | Total |
|----------------------|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
|                      | 1946          | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 |       |
| 1946                 | 7             |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 7     |
| 1947                 | 288           | 9    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 297   |
| 1948                 | 72            | 336  | 17   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 425   |
| 1949                 | 16            | 54   | 221  | 15   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 306   |
| 1950                 | 7             | 6    | 33   | 137  | 5    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 188   |
| 1951                 | 26            | 11   | 16   | 43   | 176  | 11   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 283   |
| 1952                 | 79            | 47   | 18   | 18   | 52   | 184  | 19   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 417   |
| 1953                 | 9             | 18   | 31   | 14   | 12   | 36   | 219  | 20   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 359   |
| 1954                 | 7             | 8    | 27   | 28   | 16   | 15   | 63   | 178  | 13   |      |      |      |      |      |      | 355   |
| 1955                 | 5             | 7    | 12   | 14   | 29   | 10   | 19   | 36   | 146  | 22   |      |      |      |      |      | 300   |
| 1956                 | 5             | 6    | 4    | 18   | 24   | 42   | 26   | 20   | 66   | 183  | 65   |      |      |      |      | 459   |
| 1957                 | 202           | 223  | 244  | 183  | 167  | 172  | 90   | 30   | 31   | 69   | 345  | 96   |      |      |      | 1852  |
| 1958                 | 16            | 31   | 49   | 32   | 44   | 71   | 75   | 59   | 17   | 11   | 61   | 375  | 95   |      |      | 936   |
| 1959                 | —             | 3    | 24   | 44   | 12   | 14   | 19   | 106  | 61   | 22   | 21   | 58   | 383  | 154  |      | 821   |
| 1960                 | 4             | 5    | 52   | 87   | 57   | 36   | 30   | 107  | 206  | 198  | 33   | 29   | 42   | 400  | 196  | 1482  |
| Total                | 743           | 764  | 748  | 633  | 594  | 591  | 560  | 456  | 540  | 505  | 525  | 558  | 520  | 554  | 196  | 8487  |
|                      |               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 2353 |      |      |       |

**TABLE XV**

Number of children immunised against diphtheria either alone or combined with whooping cough or as triple antigen during 1960.

|      |                            | Under 5<br>years | 5—14<br>years | Reinforcing<br>doses |     |
|------|----------------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----|
| 1960 | By General Practitioners   | 479              | 43            | 275                  | 716 |
|      | At Local Authority Clinics | 274              | 99            | 441                  |     |
| 1959 |                            | 647              | 21            |                      | 161 |

The figures in this table are taken from the monthly returns and are a true record of the actual immunisations done in the Borough during the year. They do not agree with the figures in Table XIV which is a true record so far as is known of the children still living in the Borough.

The records received of children who have come to live in Bebington from other places are known to be anything but complete, whereas the records of all those leaving the Borough are forwarded to the local health authority of the area in which they have gone to live.

(iii) **Whooping Cough**

Whooping Cough immunisation has been continued throughout the year usually combined with diphtheria and tetanus using the antigen already mentioned.

**TABLE XVI**

Number of children inoculated against whooping cough according to year of birth and year of completion of inoculation

|                      |       | Year of Birth |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |      |
|----------------------|-------|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|
|                      | 1946  | 1947          | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | Total |      |
| 1946                 | 8     |               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 8     |      |
| Year of Immunisation | 1947  | 240           | 12   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 252   |      |
|                      | 1948  | 56            | 246  | 19   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 321   |      |
|                      | 1949  | 7             | 33   | 136  | 3    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 179   |      |
|                      | 1950  | 3             | 1    | 12   | 81   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 97    |      |
|                      | 1951  | 3             | —    | 5    | 31   | 70   | 2    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 111   |      |
|                      | 1952  | 3             | 4    | 2    | 6    | 42   | 77   | 4    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 138   |      |
|                      | 1953  | 1             | 1    | 6    | 6    | 5    | 46   | 120  | 11   |      |      |      |      |      |      | 196   |      |
|                      | 1954  | 1             | 1    | 7    | 5    | 8    | 13   | 51   | 105  | 12   |      |      |      |      |      | 203   |      |
|                      | 1955  | 2             | 1    | 2    | 5    | 6    | 8    | 22   | 26   | 120  | 13   |      |      |      |      | 205   |      |
|                      | 1956  | 1             | 2    | —    | 6    | 3    | 17   | 16   | 14   | 67   | 180  | 63   |      |      |      | 369   |      |
|                      | 1957  | 1             | 1    | —    | 1    | 2    | 9    | 33   | 15   | 30   | 64   | 325  | 95   |      |      | 576   |      |
|                      | 1958  | —             | 1    | 3    | —    | 3    | 3    | 13   | 24   | 6    | 9    | 56   | 371  | 95   |      | 584   |      |
|                      | 1959  | —             | 1    | 2    | —    | 6    | 10   | 8    | 34   | 41   | 18   | 20   | 57   | 368  | 154  | 719   |      |
|                      | 1960  | —             | 1    | 6    | 7    | 11   | 5    | 13   | 37   | 97   | 138  | 26   | 28   | 38   | 394  | 194   | 995  |
|                      | Total | 326           | 305  | 200  | 151  | 156  | 190  | 280  | 266  | 373  | 422  | 490  | 551  | 501  | 548  | 194   | 4953 |
|                      |       |               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 2284 |      |      |      |      |       |      |

**TABLE XVII**

Number of children immunised against whooping cough either alone or combined with diphtheria and tetanus.

|      |                            | Under 5<br>years | 5—14<br>years | Reinforcing<br>doses |
|------|----------------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 1960 | By General Practitioners   | 466              | 24            | 144                  |
|      | At Local Authority Clinics | 264              | 20            | 163                  |
|      |                            | 730              | 44            | 307                  |
| 1959 |                            | 629              | 19            | 83                   |

See remarks under Table XV.

**(iv) Tetanus**

It is now a routine part of the immunisation policy to offer inoculation against tetanus in addition to diphtheria and whooping cough. This is in fact given with diphtheria and whooping cough as a triple antigen.

During the year 711 children completed this course of triple antigen. These children are included in the respective figures for diphtheria and whooping cough above.

**TABLE XVIII**

Number of children immunised against tetanus either alone or combined with diphtheria and whooping cough during the year.

|                            | Under<br>5 years | 5—14<br>years | Reinforcing<br>doses |
|----------------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| By General Practitioners   | 415              | 22            | 53                   |
| At Local Authority Clinics | 268              | 109           | 5                    |
|                            | } 683            | } 131         | } 58                 |

**(v) Anterior Poliomyelitis**

Table XIX is a record of the work done during the year but gives little indication of the tremendous amount of work which had to be done by the office staff.

10,364 children under sixteen had received two injections by the end of 1960 which represents about 80 per cent. of the population in that age group.

In addition adults up to the age of 40 years were also offered this vaccination. The evening session continued at New Ferry Welfare Centre. This was held each Wednesday between 5.0 p.m. and 7.0 p.m., until September when the number of people attending became so small that it was decided to hold only one of these sessions per month until the end of the year and after that to discontinue it completely. All the general practitioners will undertake to give their patients this vaccination if they so desire it.



**TABLE XIX**

No. of persons vaccinated during the year with

|  | 2nd Injection           |                       | 3rd Injection           |                        |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
|  | <i>At Clinic</i><br>220 | <i>By G.P.</i><br>545 | <i>At Clinic</i><br>686 | <i>By G.P.</i><br>1355 |
| Children born in the years 1943 to 1960                          |                         | 765                   |                         | 2041                   |
| Young Persons born in the years 1933 to 1942                     | 24                      | 164                   | 682                     | 673                    |
|  |                         | 188                   |                         | 1355                   |
| Persons born before 1933 who have not passed their 40th Birthday | 72                      | 514                   | 59                      | 291                    |
|  |                         | 586                   |                         | 350                    |
| Others   | —                       | 15                    | 1                       | 12                     |
|  |                         | 15                    |                         | 13                     |

Total number of children (1943/1960) who have received **two** injections—10,364.

Total number of children (1943/1960) who have received **three** injections—8,997.

Total number of young persons (1933/1942) who have received **two** injections—1,926.

Total number of young persons (1933/1942) who have received **three** injections—1,673.

**TABLE XX**

Number of children vaccinated (three injections) against poliomyelitis according to year of birth and year of completion of vaccination

Year of Birth

| Year of Vaccination | Year of Birth |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  | Total |
|---------------------|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|-------|
|                     | 1946          | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 |  |       |
| 1958                | 2             | 1    | 4    | 2    | 2    | 3    | 3    | 3    | 5    | 6    | 6    | 1    |      |      |  | 38    |
| 1959                | 460           | 520  | 473  | 433  | 435  | 420  | 427  | 400  | 452  | 441  | 468  | 429  | 158  |      |  | 5516  |
| 1960                | 119           | 96   | 107  | 107  | 89   | 102  | 85   | 95   | 110  | 82   | 92   | 154  | 315  | 184  |  | 1737  |
| Total               | 581           | 617  | 584  | 542  | 526  | 525  | 515  | 498  | 567  | 529  | 566  | 584  | 473  | 184  |  | 7291  |
| Total Births        | 875           | 914  | 809  | 706  | 687  | 648  | 651  | 643  | 635  | 663  | 753  | 766  | 772  | 816  |  | 10338 |

(vi) **B.C.G. Vaccination (Tuberculosis)**

As the number of infectious persons in the country steadily and swiftly decreases due to modern effective treatments and all danger from infected milk has gone because of the rigorous policy of getting all cattle tuberculin tested and the pasteurisation of milk, the number of persons who have never been faced with the infection and who therefore have had no opportunity fortunately, because of its dangers, to obtain an active naturally acquired immunity, has increased. This makes it more important than ever that adolescents approaching the dangerous age in-so-far as tuberculosis is concerned should be vaccinated in their early "teens".

This is a time consuming procedure involving at least four or five visits to the schools for each batch of children and the head teachers and staff have been most co-operative.

Table XXI gives details of numbers vaccinated.

**TABLE XXI**

B.C.G. Vaccination of thirteen year old schoolchildren:—

|    |   |      |      |      | <b>1960</b> | <b>1959</b> |
|----|---|------|------|------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. | Estimated population                      | .... | .... | .... | 870         | 744         |
| 2. | Number of consents                        | .... | .... | .... | 754         | 586         |
|    | % consenting                              | .... | .... | .... | 86.7        | 78.8        |
| 3. | Number of children tuberculin tested      | .... | .... | .... | 697         | 558         |
| 4. | Number of children tuberculin positive    | .... | .... | .... | 97          | 70          |
|    | % positive                                | .... | .... | .... | 13.9        | 12.5        |
| 5. | Number of children vaccinated with B.C.G. | .... | .... | .... | 600         | 488         |
| 6. | Percentage vaccinated of population       | .... | .... | .... | 69          | 65.6        |

In addition 19 child contacts of cases of tuberculosis were vaccinated by the Chest Physician during the year.

All mothers having their babies in hospital are being encouraged to have them vaccinated early in life and 264 had this done during the year.

*B.C.G. Vaccination Scheme for Students*—The Minister of Health has agreed to let local health authorities extend the B.C.G. Scheme to include older schoolchildren and young adults attending further education colleges. Table XXII gives the details of this.

**TABLE XXII**

|  |      |      |      |     |
|--|------|------|------|-----|
| Number of consent forms issued         | .... | .... | .... | 350 |
| Number for whom consents were received | .... | .... | .... | 25  |
| Number tuberculin tested               | .... | .... | .... | 22  |
| Number tuberculin positive             | .... | .... | .... | 7   |
| Number vaccinated with B.C.G.          | .... | .... | .... | 15  |

## SECTION 27—AMBULANCE SERVICE

On the 1st April, 1960, the complete control of this service passed to the County Council and the division now has no responsibilities in this matter. So far as I am aware the service continues to run smoothly and efficiently.

**TABLE XXIII**

The following is a statement of the work of the Ambulance Service during the period 1st January to 31st March, 1960.

|                                 |                          | (1)<br>No. of<br>vehicles | (2)<br>Total<br>No. of<br>Journeys | (3)<br>Total<br>patients<br>carried | (4)<br>No. of<br>emergency<br>calls incl.<br>in Col. (3) | (5)<br>Total<br>Mileage |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Directly<br>Provided<br>Service | Ambulances               | 2                         | 617                                | 1,685                               | 190  | 11,043                  |
|                                 | Sitting-case<br>vehicles | 3                         | 433                                | 2,831                               | 5  | 12,401                  |
| Totals                          |                          | 5                         | 1,050                              | 4,516                               | 195  | 23,444                  |

## SECTION 28—PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE and AFTER-CARE

### (a) Tuberculosis

Home visits to tuberculosis patients by health visitors were continued throughout the year and close liaison with the Tuberculosis Officer, Dr. D. W. Tough, was maintained. Nursing equipment was loaned to patients in appropriate cases.

The after-care of tuberculosis has been much simplified because modern methods of treatment ensure that with few exceptions the patients are made fit for work again so much more rapidly that they do not become the social problem they did when they were hospitalised over long periods in previous years, and after-care visiting by the health visitors is now largely to see that they are indeed maintaining their progress and reporting to the tuberculosis officer regularly.

Whilst after-care may be diminishing somewhat in volume, care and prevention are becoming even more important. Now that the patients are treated effectively and quickly become sputum negative the early detection of cases and prompt isolation is of the utmost importance in still further reducing the number of cases and it is perhaps unfortunate that too many discovered cases are not notified much sooner than they are.

The following table shows the state of the register at the 31st December, 1960, and other relevant figures for the year.

**TABLE XXIV**  
**Tuberculosis Register at 31st December, 1960**

|   | Male       | Female      | Total       |
|---|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Pulmonary ....                                | 184        | 160         | 344         |
| Non-pulmonary ....                            | 12         | 27          | 39          |
|   | <u>196</u> | <u>187</u>  | <u>383</u>  |
| New cases placed on register                  | Male       | Female      | Total       |
| Pulmonary ....                                | 18         | 16          | 34          |
| Non-pulmonary ....                            | 1          | 1           | 2           |
|   | <u>19</u>  | <u>17</u>   | <u>36</u>   |
| Cases removed from Register                   |            |             |             |
| Deaths ....                                   | 13         |             |             |
| Pronounced cured ....                         | 1          |             |             |
| Left district ....                            | 14         |             |             |
| Lost sight of ....                            | —          |             |             |
| Colonised at Wrenbury ....                    | —          |             |             |
| Transfer from non-pulmonary to pulmonary .... | 1          |             |             |
|   | <u>29</u>  |             |             |
| Contacts referred for examination ....        |            | 81          |             |
| Contacts examined ....                        |            | 147         |             |
| Child contacts vaccinated with B.C.G.....     |            | 19          |             |
| Chalets in use ....                           |            | 1           |             |
| Visits paid by Health Visitors ....           |            | 487         |             |
|   |            | <b>1960</b> | <b>1959</b> |
| Cases on Register at 31st December ....       |            | 383         | 376         |
| No. of cases/1,000 population ....            |            | 7.4         | 7.4         |
| New Cases* ....                               |            | 20          | 15          |
| New Cases/1,000 population ....               |            | 0.4         | 0.3         |
| Deaths ....                                   |            | 13          | 6           |
| Death rate/1,000 population ....              |            | 0.25        | 0.12        |

\*These are new cases notified for the first time whilst residing in the borough and this figure does not include transfers.

#### (b) Sick and Aged After-Care Handicapped Persons Club

The club for physically handicapped continued fortnightly on a Wednesday afternoon at Bromborough Council Offices and has been extremely well attended and popular. The number of persons on the club register at 31st December, 1960, was 21 and there was an average attendance of 17.

The main aims and objects of the club are to get those who are severely handicapped to have more social contacts, at the same time

to encourage them to do more for themselves and ultimately if possible to give them opportunities of doing useful work and feeling that they are part of the community and making a contribution to the community.

The club is run by a part-time occupational therapist whose services we were very fortunate to get and one of the health visitors who has been keenly interested from the beginning.

### Chiropody

The Chiropody Service for the aged, handicapped and expectant mothers continues.

Whilst there has been some retraction from the position some years ago when it was claimed that a very large number of the aged were immobile only because of the state of their feet there is no doubt that this service makes life easier to live for many.

By the end of the year the initial heavy demand had subsided and the service had become a routine matter.

**TABLE XXV**

| PLACE OF TREATMENT    | CATEGORY        |                   |                        |                   |                   |                   |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                       | OVER 65         |                   | PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED |                   | EXPECTANT MOTHERS |                   |
|                       | No. of patients | No. of treatments | No. of patients        | No. of treatments | No. of patients   | No. of treatments |
| Chiropodist's surgery | 51              | 231               | 5                      | 35                | —                 | —                 |
| Patient's Home        | 91              | 483               | 16                     | 103               | —                 | —                 |
| Club                  | —               | —                 | —                      | —                 | —                 | —                 |

Number of cases in which County Council paid part fees — 16

Number of cases in which County Council paid full fees — 147

### Geriatric Clinic

The health visitor continued to work at the Geriatric After-Care Clinic at Clatterbridge Hospital, which is held each Thursday afternoon. The number of cases dealt with and attendances are set out in Table XXVI.

This clinic is attended by appointment and the intention of it is to keep those patients who have had treatment and recovered sufficiently to return home, under observation. The health visitor obtains up-to-date reports from the district health visitors of the conditions and conveys this to the geriatrician. He discusses with the health visitor subsequent needs of the patient and she then sees that these are conveyed back to the appropriate person for attention.



This "geriatric health visitor" has forged a valuable link between the hospital services and the local health authority in the catchment area of the hospital to the mutual benefit of the hospital staff, local health authority staff and most importantly to the patients themselves.

**TABLE XXVI**

|                    | NUMBER OF         |           |             |        |            |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------|--------|------------|
|                    | Patients attended | New Cases | Attendances | Deaths | Discharges |
| Bebington ... ..   | 73                | 50        | 268         | 8      | 5          |
| Other Areas ... .. | 67                | 45        | 172         | 7      | 2          |

### **Visits made by Health Visitors**

1,513 visits were made in 1960 by Health Visitors in connection with the welfare of the chronic sick, including aged and infirm.

### **Home Nursing Equipment**

During the year issues of home nursing equipment on loan totalled 127.

### **Meals on Wheels**

The voluntary "Meals on Wheels" Service run by the Women's Voluntary Service supplied 6,822 meals to aged and handicapped people during the year.

Thanks to the generosity of the students of Liverpool University the W.V.S. were supplied with a second van. This is a boon to patients and the W.V.S., as two vans can cover the borough more quickly and economically than one. The meals do not have to be kept in the van so long and are consequently both hotter and tastier and, last but by no means least, it allows the ladies who volunteer for this a chance to be finished at a more reasonable time.

### **Convalescence**

In 1960 convalescence was obtained for two children and two adults.

### **Alterations and Adaptations to property**

During the year financial assistance was granted in five cases to meet the cost of alterations and adaptations to property occupied by physically handicapped people to help them overcome their difficulties. In two cases pavement crossings were constructed in order to facilitate the use of mechanically propelled invalid vehicles which had been supplied by the Ministry of Health. Alterations to a front door step were carried out and in two houses handrails were fixed to walls, one in a bathroom and the other in a side passage.

## **Special Washing Service**

One case received the special washing service during the year. This service is for laundering of bed clothes and underclothes where a patient is incontinent. The special washing is put in waterproof bags and taken to Clatterbridge Hospital for laundering.

The innovation during the year of giving the district nurses supplies of disposable paper drawsheets has proved to be very useful for the nursing of incontinent bedfast cases.

### **(c) Health Education**

As is indicated previously in the report much health education is carried out at preparation classes for antenatal mothers, infant welfare and young children's clinics, and individually by the staff.

Many film strips have been shown at the preparation classes, Infant Welfare Centres, and at home safety lectures.

## **Home Safety Committee**

The Bebington Voluntary Home Safety Committee continued to work steadily towards educating and informing the public on the dangers and pitfalls in the home and its environment and how to obviate accidents. In addition members of the Committee gave talks and demonstrations to many groups including church organisations, parent-teacher associations, St. John's ambulance members, Towns-women's Guilds and old age pensioners clubs.

An exhibit showing hazards in the garden was displayed in the Bebington Chamber of Trade tent at the Cheshire Show and the Cheshire Fire Service exhibited their home safety house at all the infant welfare clinics.

## **MENTAL HEALTH**

### **(a) Staff**

During the year certain changes in the administration and staffing of the Mental Health section took place and there is now a senior mental welfare officer and two other mental welfare officers, one of whom is a female, for the Wirral.

These mental welfare officers are charged with the care and after-care of the mentally disordered, that is both the mentally ill and the mentally subnormal.

One of the most important results of this development is that the health visitors have been relieved of the duty of the care of the female mentally subnormal.

### **(b) Junior Training Centre**

The Junior Training Centre is held in St. Mark's church hall where there is a general assembly room, two classrooms, a kitchen, toilets and a small staff room. The staff consists of a supervisor, three

assistant supervisors and a part-time helper for the dinners. The children and staff get dinner from Grove Street School canteen and these dinners are of a very high standard.

Provision is still being made only for children between the ages of 5—16 years, although several adolescents over 16 years have been allowed to continue to attend until the new centre for adults at Ellesmere Port is opened.

Handicrafts taught in the Centre include needlework, rug-making, weaving and felt work, and the results achieved during 1960 were most encouraging. In suitable cases instruction is given in reading and writing.

There were forty-eight children and adolescents on the register at 31st December, 1960. Their ages ranged from 5—22 years.

The register was made up as follows:—

| District                 | No. of children<br>on register |      |      |      |      |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|----------------|
| Bebington ....           | ....                           | .... | .... | .... | .... | 10             |
| Ellesmere Port ....      | ....                           | .... | .... | .... | .... | 19             |
| Heswall ....             | ....                           | .... | .... | .... | .... | 4              |
| Neston ....              | ....                           | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2              |
| Hoylelake and West Kirby | ....                           | .... | .... | .... | .... | 9              |
| Irby ....                | ....                           | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2              |
| Willaston ....           | ....                           | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2              |
|                          |                                |      |      |      |      | <hr/> 48 <hr/> |

## SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The demand for domestic help service during 1960 continued to increase and domestic helps were employed for a total of 35,213 hours, which is 3,621 hours more than in 1959.

Health Visitors paid 646 visits to households during the course of the year in connection with applications for the service, and it is very satisfactory to record that no application had to be refused and there was no waiting list.

At the end of the year 36 part-time helps were employed, compared with 37 part-time workers at the end of 1959.

The rise in the demand for this service is largely due to the progressively more complete knowledge of the old and handicapped in the borough. Whilst every endeavour is made to keep the number of hours worked in each needy household to a reasonable amount the more who can be helped in this way and the earlier the help is given the longer are they able to enjoy reasonable lives in their own homes and the less demand there is on hostel and hospital beds. The organisation of this service puts a tremendous burden on the health visitor who does this and she requires to devote a considerable period of her time to this. It is hoped that in the near future a domestic help organiser will be appointed to take this over.

Details of cases provided with domestic help service during the year together with comparative figures for 1959 are as follows:—

TABLE XXVII

|   | 1960       |               | 1959       |               |
|---|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
|   | Cases      | Hours         | Cases      | Hours         |
| Maternity .....                               | 24         | 750           | 27         | 924           |
| Tuberculosis .....                            | 4          | 1,244         | 2          | 1,082         |
| Chronic sick, including aged and infirm ..... | 153        | 30,696        | 126        | 27,416        |
| Others .....                                  | 31         | 2,523         | 40         | 2,170         |
|   | <u>212</u> | <u>35,213</u> | <u>195</u> | <u>31,592</u> |

The maximum charge to patients for domestic help service was increased from 3/9d. to 4/-d. per hour on the 26th September, 1960. There is a scale of charges in operation whereby the amount payable is assessed according to the income of the family concerned after deductions are made for rent, rates and personal allowances.

In 58 of the 212 cases provided with help in the year under review the maximum charge was paid.

### SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The following information has been supplied by the Principal School Medical Officer in respect of the School Health Service for the year 1960:—

#### PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

| Age Group Inspected | Number of pupils inspected |       |       | Physical Condition of pupils inspected |                | Pupils found to require treatment   |   |                         | No. of pupils having had tonsillectomy |       |       |
|---------------------|----------------------------|-------|-------|--|----------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|-------|-------|
|                     | Boys                       | Girls | Total | Satisfactory                           | Unsatisfactory | For defective vision (excl. squint) | For any of the other conditions recorded in Table E | Total individual pupils | Boys                                   | Girls | Total |
| (1)                 | (2)                        | (3)   | (4)   | (5)                                    | (6)            | (7)                                 | (8)   | (9)                     | (10)                                   | (11)  | (12)  |
| 1956 & later        | 1                          | 2     | 3     | 3                                      | —              | —                                   | —   | —                       | —                                      | —     | —     |
| 1955                | 175                        | 150   | 325   | 312                                    | 13             | 3                                   | 40  | 43                      | 4                                      | —     | 4     |
| 1954                | 140                        | 115   | 255   | 250                                    | 5              | 3                                   | 46  | 49                      | 5                                      | 1     | 6     |
| 1953                | 6                          | 6     | 12    | 11                                     | —              | —                                   | 1   | 1                       | 1                                      | —     | 1     |
| 1952                | 10                         | 6     | 16    | 16                                     | —              | —                                   | 1   | 1                       | 1                                      | —     | 1     |
| 1951                | 53                         | 59    | 112   | 101                                    | 11             | 12                                  | 16  | 28                      | 4                                      | 9     | 13    |
| 1950                | 139                        | 177   | 316   | 307                                    | 9              | 18                                  | 35  | 53                      | 17                                     | 16    | 33    |
| 1949                | 98                         | 92    | 190   | 186                                    | 4              | 12                                  | 19  | 31                      | 12                                     | 13    | 25    |
| 1948                | 31                         | 14    | 45    | 45                                     | —              | —                                   | —   | —                       | 1                                      | —     | 1     |
| 1947                | 99                         | 65    | 164   | 164                                    | —              | 10                                  | 1   | 11                      | 3                                      | 6     | 9     |
| 1946                | 262                        | 227   | 489   | 486                                    | 3              | 29                                  | 57  | 86                      | 21                                     | 35    | 56    |
| 1945 & earlier      | 256                        | 112   | 368   | 365                                    | 3              | 17                                  | 19  | 36                      | 29                                     | 11    | 40    |
| Total               | 1270                       | 1025  | 2295  | 2246                                   | 48             | 104                                 | 235   | 339                     | 98                                     | 91    | 189   |

### Special Inspections and Re-examinations

| Number examined                                     | Required treatment | Referred for observation | Number re-examined |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 596   | 94                 | 83                       | 588                |
| Number of children inspected for visual acuity .... |                    |                          | 259                |
| Number of parents present at all inspections ....   |                    |                          | 1444               |
| Number of children referred for observation only    |                    |                          | 167                |

### School Clinics

| Clinic      | Sessions | New Cases | Total attendances | Doctors' Sessions | Cases seen by Doctor |
|-------------|----------|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Bromborough | 11       | 32        | 33                | 7                 | 33                   |
| New Ferry   | 64       | 218       | 678               | 40                | 371                  |
|             | <hr/> 75 | <hr/> 250 | <hr/> 711         | <hr/> 47          | <hr/> 404            |

Children not seen by the Doctor are inspected by the Clinic Nurse.

### Specialists Clinics

| Clinic                     | New Cases | Attendances | Glasses recommended    |
|----------------------------|-----------|-------------|------------------------|
| Ophthalmic (New Ferry)     | <hr/> 119 | <hr/> 996   | <hr/> 365              |
| Speech Therapy (Bebington) | <hr/> 28  | <hr/> 777   | <hr/> Discharged<br>26 |

### Dental Service

| No. Inspected | No. Selected | No. Treated | No. of Teeth extracted | No. of Teeth filled |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 3,170         | 2,084        | 1,197       | 1,396                  | 3,727               |

### Handicapped Pupils

|                             | New Cases | Re-examinations |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Blind ....                  | —         | —               |
| Partially sighted ....      | —         | —               |
| Deaf ....                   | —         | —               |
| Partially deaf ....         | 2         | 1               |
| Delicate ....               | —         | 7               |
| Diabetic ....               | 1         | —               |
| E.S.N. ....                 | 1         | 4               |
| Epileptic ....              | 3         | 9               |
| Maladjusted ....            | —         | —               |
| Physically handicapped .... | 2         | 10              |
| Speech defect ....          | —         | —               |
|                             | <hr/> 9   | <hr/> 31        |



# DEFECTS FOUND IN THE COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION

TABLE E

| Defect or Disease<br>* | Periodic Inspections    |    |     |       |                           |    |    |       | Special Inspec's. |                |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----|-----|-------|---------------------------|----|----|-------|-------------------|----------------|
|                        | No. requiring treatment |    |     |       | No. requiring observation |    |    |       | No. req. treat't  | No. req. obs'n |
|                        | E                       | L  | I   | Total | E                         | L  | I  | Total |                   |                |
| 1. Cleanliness         | —                       | —  | 1   | 1     | 1                         | 1  | —  | 2     | —                 | —              |
| 2. Infestation         | —                       | —  | —   | —     | 1                         | —  | —  | 1     | —                 | —              |
| (a) head               | —                       | —  | —   | —     | —                         | —  | —  | —     | —                 | —              |
| (b) body               | —                       | —  | —   | —     | —                         | —  | —  | —     | —                 | —              |
| 3. Teeth               | 5                       | 6  | 11  | 22    | —                         | —  | 2  | 2     | 8                 | 1              |
| 4. Skin                | 9                       | 4  | 25  | 38    | 4                         | 1  | 3  | 8     | 11                | 4              |
| 5. Eyes                |                         |    |     |       |                           |    |    |       |                   |                |
| (a) vision             | 6                       | 35 | 63  | 104   | 1                         | 1  | 23 | 25    | 27                | 24             |
| (b) squint             | 2                       | 2  | 5   | 9     | 2                         | 1  | 1  | 4     | 5                 | 6              |
| (c) other              | 3                       | —  | —   | 3     | —                         | —  | —  | —     | 1                 | —              |
| 6. Ears                |                         |    |     |       |                           |    |    |       |                   |                |
| (a) hearing            | 2                       | 1  | 5   | 8     | 1                         | 1  | 3  | 5     | 3                 | 6              |
| (b) otitis media       | 2                       | 1  | 1   | 4     | 2                         | —  | 2  | 4     | —                 | 1              |
| (c) other              | 1                       | —  | —   | 1     | —                         | —  | —  | —     | 1                 | —              |
| 7. Nose and Throat     | 31                      | 3  | 9   | 43    | 38                        | 1  | 16 | 55    | 14                | 37             |
| 8. Speech              | 3                       | —  | —   | 3     | 4                         | —  | 2  | 6     | 3                 | 3              |
| 9. Lymphatic Glands R. | 1                       | —  | —   | 1     | 6                         | 1  | —  | 7     | —                 | —              |
| "    "    L.           | —                       | —  | —   | —     | 6                         | —  | —  | 6     | —                 | —              |
| 10. Heart              | 1                       | 2  | 1   | 4     | 2                         | —  | 1  | 3     | 2                 | —              |
| 11. Lungs              | 6                       | —  | —   | 6     | 13                        | —  | 5  | 18    | 1                 | 6              |
| 12. Developmental:     |                         |    |     |       |                           |    |    |       |                   |                |
| (a) hernia             | —                       | —  | —   | —     | 1                         | —  | —  | 1     | —                 | —              |
| (b) other              | 3                       | 1  | 3   | 7     | —                         | —  | —  | —     | —                 | 1              |
| 13. Orthopaedic:       |                         |    |     |       |                           |    |    |       |                   |                |
| (a) posture            | 4                       | 11 | 16  | 31    | 1                         | —  | 2  | 3     | 9                 | 3              |
| (b) feet               | 16                      | 7  | 12  | 35    | 2                         | 1  | 2  | 5     | 3                 | 4              |
| (c) other              | —                       | —  | —   | —     | 1                         | —  | —  | 1     | —                 | —              |
| 14. Nervous System     |                         |    |     |       |                           |    |    |       |                   |                |
| (a) epilepsy           | 1                       | 2  | 2   | 5     | 2                         | 1  | 2  | 5     | —                 | 3              |
| (b) other              | —                       | —  | —   | —     | 1                         | —  | —  | 1     | —                 | —              |
| 15. Psychological:     |                         |    |     |       |                           |    |    |       |                   |                |
| (a) development        | —                       | —  | —   | —     | 1                         | 1  | 4  | 6     | 1                 | 7              |
| (b) stability          | 1                       | 1  | 4   | 6     | 1                         | 2  | 2  | 5     | 1                 | 6              |
| 16. Abdomen            | 1                       | 1  | 1   | 3     | —                         | —  | —  | —     | 1                 | —              |
| 17. Other              | 9                       | 2  | 13  | 24    | 2                         | 1  | 4  | 7     | 7                 | 7              |
|                        | 107                     | 79 | 172 | 358   | 93                        | 13 | 74 | 180   | 98                | 119            |

\* E Entrants  
L Leavers  
I Intermediates and Others



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